The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL.

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LOCAL NOTICES.

Toilet Soaps

Of all kinds, at the lowest rates, at Fleming's Drug Store, No. 84 Market street.

New Trimmings.

New and elegant trimmings of every description at Joseph Horne & Co.'s, Nos. 77 and 79 Market street.

The Singer Sewing Machine.

The superior merits of the "Singer" Machines over all others, for either *family use or manufacturing purposes*, are so well established and generally admitted, that an enumeration of their relative excellencies is no longer necessary. Its attachments for *Hemming, Braiding, Cording, Tucking, Quilting Felling, Trimming, Binding etc., are novel and perfected*, and have been invented and adjusted *especially for this Machine*. Straw & Morton, Agents, corner St. Clair and Penn streets. MWS

New and Standard Goods.

Messrs. Bates & Bell, Fashionable Dry Goods House, No. 21 Fifth street, have just received a new lot of goods, including all the standard makes. Ladies will find rare bargains at this old established and model Dry Goods Emporium. Call and examine. The largest assortment of goods at the very lowest cash prices.

Parlor Stoves,

Heating Stoves, Laundry Stoves, Cook Stoves, Grate Fronts, Fenders, Summer Fronts, &c., for sale by Bissell & Co., 235 Liberty street. SMW

Fancy Goods.

New styles and all the desirable assortments, at Joseph Horne & Co.'s, Nos. 77 and 79 Market street.

Attention!

Members of Fifteenth Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry will meet at the store of C. Yeager & Co., No. 10 Market street, Wednesday afternoon. W. H. Yeager.

New and Standard Goods.

At Bates & Bell's No. 21 Fifth street.

Consumption.

From the Richmond (Va.) Times, May 28th, 1857.

This fearful disease, that carries off its thousands every year in almost every clime, and which, to inexperienced practitioners of medicine, has been such a monster, has received a serious check in its devastating march by the prescription prepared by Rev. A. Wilson, Williamsburgh, New York. This reverend gentleman was himself a great sufferer, and, therefore, sympathizes with the afflicted. He has found a cure which having tried and proved, he can confidently recommend. This is no new thing, but has been in use for years in his family, during which time by fair and honorable dealing, he has built up a reputation which is an honor to his philanthropy.

Sole Agent for Pittsburgh—Jos. Fleming, Druggist, No. 84 Market street. Send for pamphlet. W

Fresh Stock

At Bates & Bell's, No. 21 Fifth street.

Hot Air Furnaces

And Hot Air Registers, best quality, for sale by Bissell & Co. 235 Liberty street. SMW

Oyster Supper

For the benefit of the Church Home, at the Sunday School room of Trinity Church, on the evenings of Thursday and Friday, 20th and 21st of February.

TICKETS 25 cents each. Tickets for sale at the door. The tea will also be sales of useful and fancy articles and flowers.

Bouquets,

At J. R. & A. Murdoch's, 112 Smithfield street.

Joseph Horne & Co.,

Importers and Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Straw Goods, Ribbons, Notions, Trimming and Hosiery, Nos. 77 and 79 Market street, Pittsburgh, Pa. MWS

Fine Grates,

Summer Fronts and Fenders, for sale at very low rates by Bissell & Co., No. 235 Liberty street. SMW

Bouquets.

At J. R. & A. Murdoch's, 112 Smithfield street.

Dry Goods at Wholesale.

We are offering full lines of Bleached and Brown Muslins, Prints, Ticks, Ginghams, and other staple goods, making up the largest stock in the West, and less than Eastern prices. J. W. Barker & Co., No. 59 Market street. tf

Trunks, Trunks,

At John Bell's No. 85 Market street, three doors from Second street.

Underwear! Underwear!!

At Joseph Horne & Co.'s, 77 and 79 Market street.

Leaf Tobacco,

Havana, Yara, Connecticut, New York State, at New York prices, branch of Julian Allen, 172 Water street, New York. Daniel F. Diman, 79 Water street, Pittsburgh.

The Cheapest Dry Goods House in the City

Is *Soney's*, No. 168 Wylie, near Ross street. If you want the best French Merino, all wool Delaines, best 4-4 Ticking, best Prints, Cassimeres, Broakfast Shawls, Tweeds, Hosiery, Gloves, elegant Prints, Shaker Flannels, Flannels, Blankets, and a Furnishing Goods, go at once to Soney's—*the cheapest Dry Goods house in Pittsburgh.* MWS

The Celebrated

Triumph Cook Stove, for coal, for sale by Bissell & Co., 235 Liberty street. SMW

Wheeler & Wilson's Improved Lock Stich Sewing Machine,

The simplest and best. The only machine using Crystal Oil Proper with its attachments. Sales room No. 27 Fifth street. ws

The Daily Commercial

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The large tannery of C. K. Sankey, at Lockhaven, Pa., was burned on Monday morning. Loss estimated at $7,000. No insurance. All the books and papers of the establishment were burned.

By the explosion of a locomotive at Lowell, Mass., yesterday, engineer George Spaulding was killed. The fireman, a Mr. Stillman, was seriously injured. Henry Smith and Mr. Welch, of Lowell, were also injured.

Bishop Campbell's will case, involving half a million dollars, commenced at Wellsburg, W. Va., yesterday morning. The best legal talent of the country are employed, young whom are Judge Black, Gen. Garfield, Hon. Benjamin Stanton, Hon. Geo. W. McCook and Hon. Wm. Kennon.

The Fort Sanders *Index* says: An army of two thousand Indians are marching into the Sweetwater country from Idaho and Montana. They are on the war path, and have burned all the ranches north of Soda Springs, and driven off all the stock, compelling the ranchmen to seek refuge in canons.

A Committee of the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, report that there exists among the fishing population of twelve counties, a great and wide spread destitution, and that unless extensive and permanent arrangements for their relief be made, many will perish from starvation.

Levi Fickett, who was arrested for alleged forgery in New Hampshire, and shot while attempting to escape, and who had subsequently got out of jail, was rearrested yesterday in Boston. He will be taken to New Hampshire for trial.

Sergeant Bates, carrying the United States flag, reached Montgomery, Alabama, on Monday. He was met by a large number of citizens in carriages, decorated with United States flags, and by a band of music. About three thousand people turned out to hear the reception speeches and to welcome him. He is the guest of the city. All the speakers and marshals of the day were Confederate soldiers.

A New York *Herald* Washington dispatch states private advices from London say that the receipt of intelligence from Mexico that the Government had determined to repudiate all debts of foreign countries except the United States, has given rise to an intense feeling of indignation in the English Government. The Government, it is said, now contemplates the fitting out of a fleet to take possession of the ports of Mexico and hold them until satisfaction is given. It is also understood that France, though consulted, has declined for the present to participate.

Mexican intelligence to the 10th inst. says: The Legislature of San Luis Potosi has heavily taxed the wholesale merchants, and imposed on retailers a tax of three per cent. of the sales. It also asks the State Government to impose a fine of five hundred dollars and imprisonment for six months for the evasion of the payment of this tax. Colonel Canales, at Celia Cash, has pronounced against Rubi, the Governor. The Apaches are reported as robbing near Ures, Sonora. A force has been sent to attack them. General Regules has offered his resignation to the Government. General Jimenez has sent to Congress the names of one hundred and thirty towns which have revolted against Alvarez's intrigues. Revolutions and pronunciamentos are numerous. The troops at Matamoras are drilling for active service.

In the New Jersey Senate yesterday, when the resolution withdrawing the assent of New Jersey to the amendment to the Constitution known as the 14th article, was under consideration a substitute for the same in effect, but presenting the reasons for such withdrawal. It will be considered to-day.

The municipal election was held in Syracuse, New York, yesterday. Charles Andrews, Republican, was elected Mayor over General John A. Green, *Jr.*, by about one hundred majority. The entire Republican ticket was elected by increased majorities. Of the Supervisors and Aldermen five out of eight Republicans were elected.

A bloodless duel was fought in Arkansas yesterday by two druggists of Memphis. After a exact with rifles at fifty paces without damage, the affair was amicably settled.

A Committee of the State Board of Agriculture of Ohio left Columbus yesterday morning for Cleveland and Toledo, to see about locating the next State Fair.

L. Flackenecker's grocery store and three or four adjoining shops in Alton, Illinois, were burned Sunday night. Loss about fifteen thousand dollars, insurance not ascertained.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

HARRISBURG.

Another Invalid Soldiers' Asylum.

Extension of Pittsburgh Water Works.

The Senate "Free" Railroad Law.

Liberal Amendments Voted Down.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 18, 1868.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Errett, of Allegheny—Allowing Notaries Public, in Allegheny county, the same fees for taking acknowledgments as are allowed Aldermen and Justices of the Peace.

Authorizing the borough of Millvale, Allegheny county, to borrow money for school purposes.

Mr. Fisher of Lancaster—Authorizing the Governor, Auditor General and Adjutant General to examine Ephrata Mountain Springs, Lancaster county, for an asylum for invalid soldiers, and to report the price.

Bills Passed Finally.

Authorizing Pittsburgh to borrow one million dollars for Water Works.

Authorizing Philadelphia and Erie Railroad Company to issue bonds.

Providing that the firm name of any firm may consist of the name of any general partner.

EVENING SESSION.—The Free Railroad law being under discussion, the question on the amendment allowing companies to increase their capital stock, if necessary, to double the original amount was defeated.

Mr. Connell, of Philadelphia, made an amendment authorizing companies to borrow double the amount of capital stock on bonds, with the consent of a majority of the stockholders. Defeated.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny, moved an amendment allowing them to borrow on bonds the same amount as originally subscribed for stock. Defeated. Yeas 18, nays 14.

The Senate continued the Free Railroad bill. Senate substitute provides that roads built might connect with other roads on terms to be agreed upon by the respective managements when approved by the stockholders.

Mr. Errett of Allegheny, moved to dispense with the approval of the stockholders. Defeated.

Mr. Ridgway, of Philadelphia, moved an amendment requiring the consent of a majority of the stockholders. He did not consider the Directors always represented the true views and wishes of the stockholders. His amendment was adopted.

Mr. Wallace, of Clearfield, in a long speech appealed to the Senate to adopt a true Railroad law.

The Senate bill then passed second reading. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House considered one hundred and forty-five local bills on the private calendar, but before completing the first reading of the list, the hour of adjournment arrived. Adjourned till evening.

EVENING SESSION.—The House, at 11 o'clock, is still debating Mr. Hickman's amendment.

The Appropriation Bill--Reduction Over Last Year $100,000--Borers for Private Charitable Associations--The Soldiers' Orphans Appropriation--Members' Salaries--The License Law.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial, HARRISBURG, PA., February 17, 1868.

The Committee of Ways and Means reported to the House last Friday the appropriation bill. It was, however, referred back to the Committee, so as to have it perfected in a few particulars. It will, I presume, be finally reported this week, probably about next Friday. I have had not sufficient access to this bill to refer to all its items of appropriation. However, I am informed by those who have examined it, that, as it now stands, the appropriations are almost *four hundred thousand dollars less than they were last year.* And yet it might be still further reduced without any injustice to any portion of the State, or without crippling any truly charitable or humane institution.

Last year there were appropriated to what are called charitable institutions *six hundred thousand and ninety-four dollars and nine cents*, besides forty-nine thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars to the Houses of Refuge, and forty thousand and sixty four dollars to the Eastern and Western Penitentiaries. As a matter of course Penitentiaries and Houses of Refuge are not charitable institutions, and I only wish to state that the six hundred thousand that were appropriated last year to nominally charitable institutions did not include Houses of Refuge and Penitentiaries.

The members of the Committee of Ways and Means this year were disposed to cut down and cut off entirely such appropriations as, in their judgment, were not absolutely needed, or which they considered should not come out of the State Treasury, and, if I am correctly informed, they at first acted in accordance with their own better judgments. But there are interested parties connected with nominally charitable institutions all over the State who would be very much offended if they were designated as Legislative "borers," but who, nevertheless —no matter what their pretensions are—act like a pond to the very same kind of work here that the notorious "Third House" has always done. These interested parties connected with these institutions, whenever they ascertain that the Committee of Ways and Means do not intend to give them ten, fifteen, thirty or forty thousand dollars, come here in force from every locality that has such an institution, and they combine their strength and influence, "button hole" and "dodger" their immediate representatives who may be on the committee until they get them to agree to do what they know in their very consciences (to say the very least of it) is of doubtful propriety, and the result is a "ring" is formed in the committee composed of these members who have been "dodgered" into it by their consciences—who are to be benefitted by the appropriation—and thus a sufficient number is obtained to reconsider and increase such appropriations, so that the several interested amounts are inserted in the bill. "Some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others." So says the Shorter Catechism. And I am willing to agree that it is not only quite as heinous a crime in a moral point of view, for a Representative to violate his better judgment, by voting to give a few of his constituents fifty thousand dollars out of the State Treasury, which they are not legally or morally entitled to demand or receive, and which in fact he has not been authorized to do by the great body of those who have, under requirements of law, paid this money into the State Treasury; yet I have serious doubts that even such Representatives are not entirely blameless. But can any man draw the line of distinction between the interested parties connected with such institutions as those to which I have adverted, who come here and "work" for such appropriations and get their members to agree to combine with others who want similar appropriations, so as to form a "Ring," large enough to carry their projects through the Committee, and thus secure out of the State Treasury five hundred thousand dollars for the several institutions that have combined their powers. I say, can any man in either out there "Borers" and the ordinary kind that are said to infest Harrisburg during the session of the Legislature? As I said before, I do not think it quite as dishonorable for a member to take money out of the State Treasury and put it into the pockets of his constituents as it would be to put it into his own. But I think it is *worse* for any man—no matter what his pretensions to modesty may be—to insist upon his Representative going into a "Ring" to secure money out of the State Treasury for an institution, nominally charitable though it be, which the Representative's own judgment tells him is wrong, than for a "Borer" representing a corporation that wants some special privileges, to offer a hundred, or five hundred dollars belonging to such corporation, for his support of the bill granting such special privileges. I say they are both wrong—"evil and only evil, and that continually." But I insist that so long as nominally good men are found here year after year "Borering" for money to be appropriated out of the State Treasury, for some institution with which they may be connected, or from large charges for all services rendered to those who are unfortunate enough to be compelled to patronize it, the people may expect Legislative corruption. When moralists and philanthropists teach the first principles of corruption to those who act as their Representatives they need not be horrified if their pupils carry out the lessons they have learned. The other directors of any institution in the State that desire money to enable it to carry on its operations makes its report to the Legislature, and upon such reports it is presumed the Committee of Ways and Means, as well as the members and Senators generally, are compelled to form correct opinions as to the wants and necessities of each institution; and there is no necessity of agents visiting Harrisburg to form combinations to secure what they are justly entitled to. It is very unpleasant for a member or members to refuse the requirements of their constituents, even though it should be a "chunk" out of the Treasury, and very few men have the moral courage to refuse such requirements, if they intend to be candidates for re-election and

THE CAPITAL.

PROCEEDINGS OF RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.

Division of Texas into Three States.

Political Disabilities of Ex-Rebels.

Re-Admission of Alabama.

THE MISSION TO ECUADOR.

Special Dispatch to Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 18, 1868

Reconstruction.

The Reconstruction Committee met this morning and took up the bill introduced in the House yesterday to admit Alabama in the Union, but after a brief discussion decided to postpone it until next meeting. Thad. Stevens and Bontwell opposed the bill. The Committee then took up and agreed to report the bill prepared by Thad. Stevens to divide the State of Texas into three States. It will be reported, printed and recommitted for some changes before it is finally brought up for passage. A resolution was agreed on to remove the political disability in the case of Butler, member elect from the First Tennessee District, who was a one time a member of the rebel Legislature of that State. Mr. Brooks moved to include John Young Brown, of Kentucky, whose case he declared was a mild one compared with Butler's, for the latter had committed an overt act against the Government. The committee, however, by two to five, voted down Mr. Brooks's proposition. It was agreed that the bill for removing political disabilities from ex-rebels whose names were recently before the committee, should not be reported for the present. Mr. Stevens was of opinion that further investigation should be made into the circumstances under which these men entered into and quitted the rebellion. He said he did not want to make a wholesale pardon of implacable rebels.

Admission of Alabama.

Col. Griffin and John C. Keifer, leading Republican politicians of Alabama, were at the capitol to-day in consultation with members of Congress in reference to affairs in that State, and urging its admission under the Sherman or Bingham bill, should the latter fail to have cast sufficient votes to ratify the Constitution.

The Missouri State Guards.

The House Military Committee this morning decided to report the bill which has passed the Senate, placing ten regiments of Missouri State Guards on the same footing for back pay and bounties as regular volenteer troops in the United States service. This bill passed both Houses last session, but did not reach the President by a mistake. It is now before the House, and will, it is thought, be passed there without any debate. It has passed the Senate.

Discharged for Voting.

Radical Senators and Representatives are overwhelmed with letters from Alabama complaining that thousands of negroes have been discharged from employment for voting for the ratification of the Constitution at the recent election. One letter says that ex-Senator Fitzpatrick discharged fifty men, but adds that he had to hire them over again a few days afterwards.

The Ecuador Mission.

The name of ex-Governor Tom Ford, of Ohio, has been withdrawn as a candidate for the Ecuador mission. General Carey to-day recommended Judge Caldwell, of Cincinnati, for the place. The President says he will decide upon a nominee this week.

The Democratic National Convention.

A delegation from Cleveland arrived last night to secure the holding of the National Democratic Convention in that city.

The New Lisbon Postoffice.

A special agent of the Postoffice Department has been sent to New Lisbon, Ohio, to investigate charges against the Postmaster of that place.

Willing for an Investigation.

Mr. P. Gaddis, Assessor of the Second Ohio District, writes to the President to assure him that he is willing to have an investigation of the conduct of his office.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 18, 1868.

THE RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE.

The Reconstruction Committee held a meeting this morning. The first proposition presented for consideration was the removal of the disabilities of Mr. Butler, claiming to be the Representative elect from Tennessee, and suspending the test oath in his case, in order that he might take a seat in the House of Representatives. Mr. Brooks moved to include Mr. Jno. Young Brown, of Kentucky, within the scope of the resolution, not because he considered Brown a rebel, but because the House had declared that Butler was not, and to single out Butler, Barnburning-like, they demand that they shall get pay the eleventh time by the State opening up the Treasury to them. If this bill should pass the House, Senator Morgan will take a hundred thousand dollars to meet similar claims all over the State wherever State troops were quartered during the war.

Mr. Errett moved to repeal that part of the act passed at the last session entitled "An act to enable police officers to enforce order in disturbed houses and to restrain the unlawful traffic in ardent spirits." The above law, although it had some very good provisions, yet was not what its framers intended and while it was obnoxious to the dealers in whisky it was equally unsatisfactory to temperance men; hence its repeal. JONES.

ITEMS IN APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Harrisburg *State Guard* gives the following items in the Appropriation bill, all of which are changes from the appropriations of last year: *Salaries*—Auditor General, $2,000; Surveyor General, $2,000; Attorney General, $3,000 instead of $2,500; Adjutant General, $3,500, an increase of $500; Superintendent of Common Schools, $2,500; all the messengers in the Departments $300 instead of $200; for postage, telegrams, &c., of Executive Department, $1,000 instead of $700; chief clerk of Adjutant General's office, $1,800. Transportation of deceased soldiers' bodies, $4,500, and the claims are to be received after June 1, 1868; education and maintenance of soldiers' orphans, $100,000 instead of $550 000 appropriated last year, and $100,000 less than the Superintendent asked for. In this section also authorizes the Governor to discharge from the schools such pupils arriving at the age of fifteen as he may deem proper to provide with homes outside of said schools, and reduces the pay to the principals of schools from five to ten dollars a pupil, and refers to Superintendent of Soldiers' Orphans $1,400, but nothing for a messenger, for the support of Common Schools, $600,000 instead of $350,000; President Judges of Judicial Districts, $4,000; Judicial District $4,000 instead of $3,800; expenses of Legislature $190,000 instead of $205,000, (and does not include the extra pay to members and officers); water for public buildings $600 instead of $900; the sum asked for the public buildings is to be paid in the usual way, but not to exceed $6,000; superintendent of Public Buildings $1,200 a year, instead of $1,500 a day; repairing roofs, steps and grounds, wages of laborers, &c., $5,000, instead of $6,000; repairing cornices, cornenicing work and its work on Capitol, $2,000; for out-house at Land Office $1,000; mending and oiling Capitol floors $1000, instead of $125; for services of Chief Clerk and two assistants each, ten days after close of session, duties of Chief Clerks during recess and for indexing journals, in all not to exceed $4,000; Seth A. Small, Resident Clerk, for same, as such clerk, and for filing away and taking charge of documents, $1,050, instead of $1,000, as heretofore; pages, not to exceed $200, per session in basement, door-keepers to rotunda and Capitol extension and persons in charge of fire hacres, $600 each; Deaf and Dumb Institution $20,000, instead of $35,000; Blind Institution $30,000, instead of $30,000; for the completion of Penn'a Hospital for Feeble Asylum, $52,000; drains, pipes, kitchen enlargement, insurance, ventilating, &c., of same institution, $18,500; for the State Lunatic Hospital, $20,000, instead of $16,000, and $10,000 additional for Insane; Training School for feeble-minded children, in all, $16,000; salaries of officers of the Eastern and Western Penitentiaries, each $17,800, an increase of $4,000 over the former, and a decrease of $2,500 on the latter; Home for Destitute Colored Children, $1,000; for fitting up and furnishing Supreme Court room, $1,000; for furnishing the addition to the Executive Mansion, $6,500; completion of Mexican monument, $1,000; Home for Friendless Children at Lancaster, $5,000. There is also an additional sum appropriated for the extension of the Executive Mansion. Appropriations to what are known as "Local Charities" are dispensed with.

BALTIMORE.

Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad--President Hughart Before the Council--Early and Favorable Action of City Authorities Probable.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BALTIMORE, February 18, 1868.

W. O. Hugart, Esq., President of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad, presented this evening to the City Councils an ordinance relative to the completion of the road. Mr. Hughart, in a full and complete speech, explained to the Councils and business men of the city present, the great advantages which would accrue to their city by the speedy completion of the work. Afterwards, at his own request, he was interrogated at length relative to the prospects of the road, and answered to the satisfaction of the members.

The members are favorably impressed with the importance of going to work quickly. They think the ordinance will be passed in the course of a week.

W. P. Logan appeared before the Councils on behalf of the oil interests. O'C.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 18, 1868.

THE ROCK ISLAND CASE.

In the Supreme Court the Case of Fiske and others against the Rock Island Company came up to-day. An affidavit of the defendants was read, denying that they were seeking to get acts through the Legislatures of Iowa and Illinois. The Court denied the motion for a stay of proceedings, and set down the main motion for Saturday.

ARRIVAL.

The steamer City of Washington, from Liverpool via Halifax, has arrived.

RAILROAD SALE.

The negotiation for the purchase of the properties of the Northern New Jersey Railroad by the Hudson River West Shore Railroad Company have been completed.

SUDDEN DEATH.

Sir Edmund Head, formerly Governor General of Canada, died suddenly in England, in the 63d year of his age.

BOUNTY FOR MISSOURI TROOPS.

The House Military Committee have decided to report the Senate bill giving pay and bounties to ten regiments of Missouri State Guards, called out during the rebellion.

LAW DEPARTMENT.

The Judiciary Committee has authorized Mr. Lawrence to report a bill organizing a Law Department under control of the Attorney General.

PERSONAL.

Generals Grant and Howard were on the floor of the House to-day.

CONDUCTOR ON A STREET CAR MURDERED.

J. F. Livelle, a conductor on Seventh avenue, was murdered last night by a drunken man whom he had put off for non-payment of fare. The murderer, who was generally dressed, is not yet apprehended.

NEW TELEGRAPH LINE.

Some twenty capitalists here have subscribed $5,000 each for the construction of a telegraph cable from Cuba to the other West Indies and Panama.

Democratic clubs are being organized in Augusta and other cities in Georgia.

an early day to make a further large decrease of the force in the Department.

BRITISH POSTAGE.

Notice has been given by the British Postoffice Department that on and from the first of March the single rate of postage for letters between the United States and the East Indies and England will be twenty-eight cents per half ounce via Southampton, and thirty-six cents via Marseilles, prepayment compulsory.

RECONSTRUCTION.

The Texas Election.

GALVESTON, February 17.—Official returns of the election in the city give for Convention, whites 203, and colored 878 votes; against Convention, whites 117 votes. Smith and Ruby are elected.

Georgia Convention.

ATLANTA, Georgia, February 17.—The Convention has stricken out by a large majority a clause empowering the Legislature to alter or abolish any charter hereafter granted. It is reported that ten thousand dollars is to be paid to the members on Tuesday.

ATLANTA, February 18.—The convention exempted to-day all manufactories and institutions of learning from taxation. The words "two-thirds" wherever they occur in the report of the Committee on Legislative Department, were stricken out, and the word "majority" inserted, to define the powers of the Legislature.

Benjamin Hill will speak here on Saturday next. Dr. Miller has been petitioned to reply to him.

Louisiana Convention.

NEW ORLEANS, February 17.—In the convention a resolution to adjourn *sine die* on Thursday was tabled. A resolution that members received no pay after the 15th was also tabled. The resolution indorsing the petition to Congress of the Georgia Convention for thirty millions of dollars was discussed till adjournment.

NEW ORLEANS, February 18.—In the Convention to-day, an ordinance was introduced, which was laid over, regulating weights and measures. The Committee on Style and Arrangement made a lengthy report, describing so many alterations and amendments that one member said the Convention could hardly recognize its own creation in the Constitution as reported by the Committee. He moved to recommit a part, which led to confused discussion. It was finally recommitted, with instructions to have the constitution printed without any changes whatever for comparison with the copy as amended by the committee. Work is thus laid out for an indefinite period. The Radicals declare that they had adopted no preamble to the constitution, and discussed the matter for a couple of hours, after which they adjourned.

Virginia Convention.

RICHMOND, February 18.—The Convention was engaged to-day chiefly on the oyster question. It was resolved to tax the amount of sales. It was finally debated as to whether to call another a second. A proposition to appoint a Committee to devise means to complete the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad was tabled.

The Republican State Committee met to-day. A nominating Convention will be called to meet in this city five days after the adjournment of the Constitutional Convention. The names of Messrs. Harrison, Hunnicutt, Aylett, Rives, of Albemarle, E. Rice, of Shenandoah, and Thomas O. N. Hearn, are spoken of in connection with the Governorship.

Alabama Election.

MONTGOMERY, February 18.—Official returns from forty-two counties are received at district headquarters, but under an order from General Sickles will not be published in full. The whole vote of the State on the question of ratification is estimated from partial returns at about 72,000. The white vote is less than 9,000. Half the registration is white.

South Carolina Convention.

CHARLESTON, February 18.—In the Convention to-day twenty more sections of the Constitution were adopted. There was a long discussion on the homestead law, which proposes the exemption of $2,500 homesteads from sales for all debts for the present, past and future. Senator Wilson telegraphs from Washington that Congress will not loan one million dollars to the State to purchase land for the poor.

The Florida Election.

TALLAHASSEE, February 18.—The Convention to-day reorganized on the basis proposed by General Meade. There was much excitement among delegates and lobbyists. General Meade had a conference with the leaders of the majority and minority, and made propositions of conciliation and harmony, which the majority immediately accepted, and also after a little hesitation by the minority. They are as follows: The presidents of both wings to resign, the four delegates declared ineligible by the majority are to take their seats, and a committee of seven, four from the majority, a majority to decide all questions of eligibility to be determined in full Convention. Col. Sprague, commander of the State, to call the Convention to order, and a new organization to be formed. Each wing to have its proportion of all men and classes as the basis of the Constitution. Forty-five members were present out of forty-six. Horatio Jenkins, late President of the majority, was elected by a vote of thirty-three to eight. The standing rules and resolutions of organization adopted by the majority were re-adopted. General Meade and staff appeared in the Hall after organization, and were received with cheers. General Meade said he was gratified that both sides had approached him in a spirit of liberality, and hoped harmonious action would ensue. The strictest vote in Convention now stands thirty to fifteen, if the four ineligible members remain. The Convention will take up the Constitution line for adopted by the majority, and re-adopt it. W. H. Gleason has been elected financial agent of the Convention.

Mississippi Convention.

JACKSON, February 18.—The two members engaged in the dispute yesterday, made mutual concessions, apologized, and shook hands amid applause from all sides. Three additional sections of the bill of rights were adopted.

The Democratic State Convention meets here to-morrow.

CINCINNATI.

Accident on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

CINCINNATI, February 18.—A passenger train on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad ran off the track last night near Farmington, Va. The sleeping car, containing twenty persons, was thrown down an embankment thirty feet into Buffalo creek. The car was demolished. Wm. Harris, of Dayton, O., was the only person seriously injured.

TENDENCY OF THE SCHOLARLY

Mr. Gladstone on "Ecce Homo."

The *Scottish American Journal*, of New York, congratulates the public that the comparative leisure which the late Chancellor of the Exchequer of Great Britain is enjoying is being devoted to the highest studies that can possibly engage the mind of man, all the more gratifying, indeed, that in these "sceptical times there is a tendency on the part of the most talented and scholarly, to give the go-by to religion and almost all that properly belong to it." Our Scottish contemporary hails with some a keep interest and stated that the "tendency of the scholarly of the present day is not alone to give religion the go-by, but to assail it in its most sacred and vital parts. It is only necessary to glance at the pages of some of the best advertised magazines of the day to satisfy one of the correctness of this assertion. With the *Scottish American* we think, therefore, it is well that such as Gladstone, with his profound knowledge of all things and varied learning, is ranged on the side of a conservative, yet rational and progressive Christianity. So far as his criticism upon "Ecce Homo" has progressed, it is observed that Mr. Gladstone is not in sympathy with its author, and in every high and true sense "the champion of Christian principle and the defender of the ancient bulwarks of the Christian Church."

THE Washington correspondent of the Boston *Advertiser* writes as follows: The impeachers say that General Grant defeated the project. I don't hear that anybody charges him with having obtruded or volunteered his advice—if it was asked I presume he gave it, and against the movement. And if it be true—fixing the impeachment men at their own word—that his word or advice defeated the scheme, I think the country is under new obligations to him. In the advice we have further testimony of his wisdom and patriotism, and those out of doors who scold at him must, might better ask for his instinctive sympathy with the calm and mature judgment of the nation.

Another salt well has been discovered at Port Sarnia, Canada, on the lake shore, which is supposed to penetrate the same bed of salt as the Goderich wells. It is understood the brine is very strong and pure, and measures will, of course, be taken to develop more fully the resources of the region. Persons familiar with these new discoveries say that experiments prove that the Goderich and Port Sarnia wells penetrate a bed of nearly pure salt, at a depth of about 1,800 feet, and the water raised from the wells is nearly pure and very abundant.

Naples is frightening Europe by manufacturing red shirts, presumably for Garibaldians. They all have an immense letter V in black cloth on the breast, which it is said stands for victory, and means that the wearers are to execute vengeance against the French.

The English sparrows which have taken so kindly to the squares and parks of New York, are now numerous in Newark and other neighboring cities, and by their hardiness and cheerfulness under adverse circumstances, portend to shame their cousins of American birth.

SECOND EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK, A. M.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Sanitary Boards in German Ports.

Losses by the Antwerp Fire.

DEBATE ON FRENCH PRESS BILL.

Lord Derby's Health Improving.

A Wise Move.

BERLIN, February 18.—Count Bismarck proposes the establishment at the different ports of Germany of a board of Federal officers to examine into the condition of vessels bound to America. An effort to prevent the repetition of the Leibnitz horror is the immediate cause of this salutary step of the government.

Loss by the Antwerp Fire.

ANTWERP, February 18.—The losses entailed by the fire at the petroleum docks in this city on Saturday fall almost exclusively on the Dutch and Belgian insurance companies.

The Press Bill.

LONDON, February 18.—The bill for the regulation of the press is still under discussion in the French Legislative body. There was a violent debate yesterday on the question of the distribution of Government advertising patronage. The opposition claimed that Liberal journals were justly entitled to a share of the advertisements published by the national and municipal authorities. This was demanded as a matter not of necessity, but of principle, the speakers declaring that in laws for the regulation of the press, all journals should be treated with the strictest impartiality. The effort to have the bill modified by the insertion of a provision to this effect was defeated, but the majority against the proposition was small.

THE BARK EUREKA.

The loss of the American bark Eureka by fire, at Antwerp, is doubted. Contradictory reports having been received as to the names of the vessels destroyed.

Lord Derby.

LONDON, Evening, February 18.—The bulletins in regard to Lord Derby report that he is improving.

The Deposed German Powers.

BERLIN, February 18.—The Upper House of the Diet has passed the convention made with the deposed powers whose territories were annexed to Prussia. The King engages to suspend all payment of money to princes, and confiscate their property in case of disloyalty.

Abyssinia.

PARIS, Evening, February 18.—The *Moniteur du Soir* has a report that there has been a step in advance of the British in Abyssinia, and General Napier is calling for reinforcements.

Appointment.

MAX OUTREY, Agent and Consul General at Cairo, has been appointed Minister to Japan.

The Press Bill.

In the Corps Legislatif to-day, the amendment to the bill for regulating the press, permitting free admission of foreign papers and the unrestricted sale of French journals, was rejected.

British Parliament.

LONDON, Evening, February 18.—In the House of Commons this evening, Sir Stafford Northcote, Secretary of State for India, made a statement in regard to the presence of the Egyptian troops in Abyssinia. He said, at the request of the English Government, the Pasha had agreed to recall his auxiliary force from Abyssinia, and reports since received that the Egyptians still remain in the country and are advancing with the British, have not yet been explained by any official dispatches received by the Government. He also states that the expedition was no longer suffering from scarcity of water.

The House of Commons to-night, in Committee of the Whole, agreed to renew the suspension of the *habeas corpus* in Ireland.

Examination of Clerkenwell Prisoners.

LONDON, February 18.—The examination of the persons arrested on suspicion of being connected with the Clerkenwell explosion has terminated. All the prisoners were remanded to confinement except Allen, against whom no evidence was elicited, and he has been discharged.

Liverpool Market

LIVERPOOL, February 18, Evening.—Cotton closed active and higher; middling uplands 9¾d; orleans 9¾d; sales 12,000 bales. Breadstuffs quiet but steady. The market for goods and yarns is unchanged.

Breadstuffs—Corn 35s 3d. Wheat 10s 6d for California white, and 10s 9d for No. 2 red western. Barley 4s 6d. Oats 5s 3d. Peas 39s 6d.

Provisions—Beef 110s. Pork 73s for new. Lard 58s. Bacon 57s 6d for long middles.

Produce—Sugar firmer at 25s. Rosin, common 7s 9d. Spirits turpentine 36s. Tallow 42s 6d. Refined Petroleum 1s 6d.

London Money Market.

LONDON, Evening, February 18.—Consols closed at 93¾@93¾ for money. Illinois Central 86@87. Erie 40@41.

United States Bonds at Frankfort.

FRANKFORT, Evening, February 18.—United States five-twenties closed at 87¾@88.

FRANKFORT, Evening.—American bonds closed strong at 87¾@88.

KENTUCKY.

U. S. Senatorship--Thos. C. McCreery, Democrat, Elected--Lecture by Horace Greeley.

LOUISVILLE, February 18.—The Democrats of the Legislature held a caucus last night to nominate a Senator. After eight ineffectual ballots, the caucus adjourned at a late hour to meet again at eight and a-quarter o'clock this morning. The last ballot stood: McCreery, 46; Bright, 30; Stanton, 24.

Desha, in caucus meeting this morning, Bright, who was not a candidate and received a large vote notwithstanding, and Stanton withdrew their names, and Thomas C. McCreery, of Daviess county, was nominated unanimously. He has always been a Democrat, has a clear record, and is regarded as the first men in the State intellectually. This is the first time in which he has ever held. In the Legislature to-day the vote stood: McCreery, 110; Barnes, Radical, 9; Harding, "third party," 5.

Horace Greeley lectured on "self-made men" to-night to a very large audience.

Train in Ireland.

George Francis Train is making some very funny speeches in Ireland, and others that the English are inclined to think are rather dangerous, and view with dissatisfaction. The Cork correspondent of the London *News* telegraphs to that paper:

"It is difficult to exaggerate the mischief these harangues are doing here. The persons to whom they are addressed are chiefly men and boys of the lower classes, those who form the back-bone of Fenianism

The Daily Commercial

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1868.

THE COMMERCIAL is the largest daily paper in the State, and gives daily one fourth more reading than any other paper in Pittsburgh. It is the only Pittsburgh paper that uses the telegraph liberally, gives full market reports, and all the news of the day.

As proof of the estimate placed on the market reports of the COMMERCIAL, we will state that they are regularly copied by the New York Economist, Shipping List, Iron Age, and other papers of this character in that and other cities, and that leading English commercial papers and circulars republish them with credit. There is within forty hundred miles, hardly an Iron Factory, Oil Refinery, or leading manufactory of any kind that is not a subscriber to the COMMERCIAL, principally, because its reports are the only full and reliable given of the Pittsburgh markets.

NOTWITHSTANDING Mr. PENDLETON'S apparent strength and confidence of his friends, the prospect of his nomination is growing less. A strong organization in favor of bringing out Senator HENDRICKS, of Indiana, is quietly at work with increasing expectations; and they claim to have already divided the West, which Mr. PENDLETON lately claimed was a unit for him.

GEN. HANCOCK'S visit to Texas is said to have worked a great change in him, and fears are entertained by some of his conservative friends that he may become a rank Radical. A private letter from him to a friend in New York, couched in terms whereof some of SHERIDAN'S letters appear to have been taken as guides, intimates, in fact plumply says, that he has "got a belly full" of the sort of Unionism which Mr. JOHNSON and the Democracy are endeavoring to build on. The General returned to New Orleans a good deal changed if not a better man!

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD AND ROME.

A report, believed by some and disbelieved by others, reached New York from Europe a day or two ago, that the Bishop of Oxford has joined the church of Rome. The confirmation or the denial of this rumor will be looked for with great interest by many, both Catholics and Protestants. The event has for some time been the subject of hints and whispers among church people in England, and the London *Weekly Review* of January 25th contained a paragraph in which it was announced, in a sufficiently sensational style, that a high dignitary of the established church was about to give up his preferments and follow the path, if not the example of OAKLEY, NEWMAN and MANNING. Either the Bishop of Salisbury or the Bishop of Oxford was supposed to be alluded to. And now the steamer Palmyra arrived at New York on Saturday brings word that SAMUEL of Oxford, has gone to Rome. Most of our readers are probably aware that the Bishop of Oxford is a son of WM. WILBERFORCE, the philanthropist. A good many years ago two of WM. WILBERFORCE'S sons published a life of their father, in which they claimed for him a more extensive and effective agency in the abolition of the slave-trade than some of his surviving coadjutors in the great achievement thought he deserved. The claim made in the biography was vehemently assailed by the friends of Mr. CLARKSON. Our impression is that the reputation of neither was much enhanced by the controversy. One remarkable and somewhat startling statement made in the biography was of the purport that the junior WILBERFORCES had in their youth imbibed a strong prejudice against the religious school to which their father and his friends chiefly belonged. "The good men of Clapham," as SYDNEY SMITH named them, because they lived in that London suburb, were a truly pious and actively useful set of men; but many of the religious persons calling themselves Evangelicals who gathered about them seemed to indulge a most unevangelical uncharitableness in judging and an equally unevangelical love of scandal in talking about others. At least so it appeared to the young WILBERFORCES. All the boys at school and at the university adopted religious opinions very different from those recommended by their father in his earnest and once much read book on Practical Religion. One of the brothers became skeptical; another rose to be an Archdeacon of the English church and a noted writer of books and pamphlets, when he went to Rome and died there we believe.

SAMUEL of Oxford has long been noted for his eloquence and for his sagacity and power as an ecclesiastical politician. Both these characteristics are, we fancy, indicated in the sobriquet by which it has been the fashion to refer to him. Let not offense be taken at the horrible familiarity implied in the nickname. WELLINGTON was known in the Peninsula as "old Bones," and NAPOLEON was called the "little corporal." Bishop WILBERFORCE is widely known as "soapy Sam." He has long been admired and feared as a controversialist, few ecclesiastics of his church being equal to him in the facility of making their views seem to others true and worthy of acceptance. Perhaps he was the only Bishop of the English Church who could descend to the use of personalities in debate without apparent loss of dignity. His soft and smooth flow of words and bland address, all implied in the epithet "soapy," rendered even his personalities graceful and becoming. It was only when they came to be read in the *Times* that they seemed unworthy of a Bishop—and "Sam" seemed the right substantive for soapy to qualify. No doubt many readers still remember the little conflict or "set-to" between the Bishop and Professor HUXLEY some years ago at a meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. In that extemporary debate, SAMUEL OXONIENSIS declared his want of respect for any man willing to admit the possibility of his own descent from an ape. To which amenity the Professor retorted his want of respect for any body, even though a Bishop, who preferred his ecclesiastical position to truth. DARWIN'S Theory was the subject. As the Bishop began the contest, he was the more harshly judged and was generally thought to have suffered most in dignity, perhaps because he had most of the commodity to lose.

It seems quite incredible that the Bishop at his mature age has concluded to exchange his position of almost exceptional dignity and influence in England for insignificance and supposed truth in Italy. Had the report gone abroad fifteen or twenty years ago it would not have seemed so unlikely. Before the age of forty love of truth or the wish to produce a sensation, or both combined, may accomplish almost any strange revolution in profession or in conduct.

PARENTS AND SCHOOLS.

The responsibility of parents is not to be measured by dollars and cents. The loss or injury from neglect or misdirection cannot be calculated. Neither can the responsibility be shifted to another; it cannot be wholly delegated. Yet very many parents act as though they believed that when they have provided teachers for their sons and daughters their duty as to their education is discharged—they have nothing more to do in this respect. Their business matters they do not so readily confide to others. The loss here can be computed. But that teacher to whom a child is entrusted for twenty-four hours, a week, or one-seventh of his time, is not a parent to your child, only in part. He has not a parent's trusts committed to him, and has not his rights in relation to your child. This is at once seen if he punishes your child. You feel that injustice has been done. One of the most able writers on the duties of parents, says they "are bound to devote such time and attention to the subject as to enable them to ascertain whether the teacher discharges his duty with faithfulness." With many parents the ascertaining whether their children like or dislike their teacher or not is the limit of their obligations, and this they learn from their children at home at some time, it may be when they are disaffected in consequence of the faithfulness of the teacher. The child's testimony is all that is asked—as an interested and incompetent witness—as to the capability and fidelity of the teacher. It is as if a manufacturer should be condemned as inefficient or incompetent by a disaffected operative or prejudiced visitor.

We have often heard teachers and institutions of learning, accused by parents of defects and of unjust regulations from which they were wholly free. The institutions should be visited, the teachers seen, and the testimony taken on both sides, and even in this case the parent's prejudice would be likely enough to decide unjustly in favor of his child. Even if the defect did exist it might not be sufficient to condemn the whole institution. Imperfection marks everything in this world, and perhaps family government may not be an exception. Parents would not like to have their management of two or three children judged by one or two cases of discipline selected by the servant or by the conduct of the servant only temporarily employed. Would the manufacturer wish to have his establishment judged by the working of the most defective article of machinery to be found in it, or by the most unskilled workman there? And yet this is what many parents are constantly doing. Their children whom they send to school to learn may be urged to study beyond their inclinations; or may have been thwarted in the gratification of their desires for mischief; or their overweening self-conceit may have been somewhat diminished by the disclosure of their ignorance; or they may not have been advanced according to their own exalted opinions of their capacities; or who may have told imperfectly, innocently, or otherwise, what was said or done, and they are full of dissatisfaction with the teachers. Brains the teachers cannot furnish, neither can they train, as they would, the feeble capacities often furnished in consequence of the little power given to them. In this way parents injure their own children, and the reputation of many most worthy teachers.

Parents can make no better investment of a part of their time than by visiting the schools where their children are, and ascertaining just what they are doing, suggesting changes where they may be necessary, and giving encouragement and praise where it may be deserved to children and teachers. It is better that business suffer somewhat and that the gains be a little less than that education of their children be faulty, or it may be wholly defective through their neglect.

THOUGHT AND INSTINCT.

MOLIERE informs us how SGANARELLE was made a physician in spite of his remonstrances and protestations of ignorance of the medical art. SGANARELLE'S wife, in revenge for a beating he had given her, told two young people in search of a doctor, that her husband was a very skillful one, who was unwilling, however, to practise his art, and could be made to do so, or to own to knowledge of it only by blows. After some parley it was found necessary to proceed to extremities. SGANARELLE in vain assured the inquirers, who wanted a doctor to prescribe for a young lady affected with loss of speech, that he was a poor wood-cutter quite ignorant of all the sciences. They insisted that he was a noted physician, and the very person they wanted, and on his persistent resistance proceeded to administer a sound cudgelling. The result was the same often formerly seen in the application of torture. SGANARELLE gave in and said, "well, yes sirs, since you will have it so, I am a doctor. I *am* a doctor; in apothecary also if you wish it. I'd rather agree to anything than be killed." Moreover, true to a law of human nature, the submission presently began to react upon his own mind. The woodman began to question himself, "is it possible that *I* have been the deluded party, and that I had become a physician without knowing it?" We may add that SGANARELLE acquitted himself very well in his enforced vocation, and was perhaps quite as successful a practitioner as if he had received the training which, in the seventeenth century, was believed to qualify for the profession. The fact of being then as now was to the many the sufficient reason of being.

The right to think is, in words at least, generally conceded in this country. The claim that they do think for themselves is frequently made by persons with a confidence which implies a conscious knowledge of the reproach involved in the opposite. *Books* are praised as being suggestive of thought, and public instructors of all classes pay their hearers the pleasing compliment of addressing them as thinkers, or at least as able and willing to think. Among those who do not attempt, or feel called to instruct others, we sometimes hear the commendation of a lecturer or preacher that he is a thinker, and this is justly regarded as about the highest praise that can be given to such a character.

Notwithstanding this wide and ready recognition of the right and the worth of thinking—we are sometimes afraid that we are not so advanced in wisdom, as the fact might seem to imply. We fear that even in this vivacious and intelligent generation only the minority think, while the majority merely opine. It may even be doubted whether there is universally prevalent anything like a hearty and unreserved belief that it is both the right and the duty of every person of mature age to examine by the aid of his reason and conscience all the great questions of life and conduct which must ever constitute the staple material of public teaching. Intolerance is deeply seated in the human heart, and it is even now impossible to mingle a little even with the most respectable people without seeing unmistakable indications of the old root of bitterness.

Some of them would be shocked at the charge, they are not aware that they are open to it. The manifestations which justify it are called by euphemistic names. People are not now, as formerly, condemned to the thumb screw, or the boot for erroneous views. Punishments, however, as painful almost to sensitive spirits, are still inflicted upon those who hold eccentric opinions, if they are candid or bold enough to make them known. To some it may seem harsh and almost unjust to characterize the spirit which inflicts such punishment nowadays as a spirit of persecution. We are not disposed to insist upon the phrase, or the justice of its application. We are more concerned with the cause. This we suppose frequently to be the absence of real thought in the persons who teach and act in the exercise of the spirit referred to. Opinion is said to be "a mental conviction of the truth of some statement founded on a low degree of probable evidence." Many people are perhaps not capable of attaining mental convictions higher or more solid than this. And no doubt there are some valuable principles of life and conduct which must at last rest on a low degree of probable evidence, no more cogent evidence being accessible. There are not many such principles, however. Nearly all really valuable practical truths so called, may be made to found themselves upon proofs so clear and forcible as to compel the assent of rational beings. Our complaint is two-fold. First—that doctrines in favor of which only a low degree of probable evidence can be alleged, are put forward and insisted upon as if they were incontrovertible—as if rational people may not wisely differ about them. In the second place—from want of thought really well established principles are held and taught as if they rested upon merely probable grounds. In other words, opinions are maintained and presented as if they were indubitable and indisputable truths; while indubitable and indisputable truths are maintained and presented as if they were mere opinions. Hence, as PASCAL said, opinion becomes the Queen of the World, and her dominion is often troubled by anarchy and confusion. A truth held as a mere matter of opinion seems weakened by every testimony produced against it, and the more eminent or influential the name cited in opposition, the more severe the shock given to the truth. Hence uneasiness and tendency to disparage and to persecute opponents. On the other hand, an opinion raised to the dignity and influence of an established truth may become exceedingly mischievous. Those in any manner interested in it are powerfully tempted to manufacture supports and motives for its maintenance and extension. Champions of it can be and are made as SGANARELLE in the comedy was made a physician. Men are constitutionally prepared for the deception practiced upon them. It has always been a human tendency to avoid responsibility and the painfulness of thought by going with the multitude to do evil or to do good. In the third canto of the Purgatorio DANTE illustrates this trait of human kind by a simile not very flattering to us. "As sheep," says the divine poet, "issue from the fold by one, by two, or by three at a time, and the others stand timid, turning eye and nose to the ground, and *what the first does the others also do, crowding around it if it stops, and know not wherefore.*" As a parallel to this passage, the commentators quote a sentence from the *Convito*, another of DANTE'S works lately translated by Mr. NORTON, of Boston. "These may be called flocks of sheep, not men; for if one sheep should throw himself down a precipice of a thousand feet, all the rest would follow; and if one for any cause in passing a road should leap, all the rest would do the same, though they saw nothing to leap over."

In a country, and with institutions such as ours, where all our hope of continued prosperity depends, under Providence, on the growing intelligence and wisdom of the people, the sooner we get rid of this sheepish instinct the better. The bell-wether may be a sagacious animal, but he is only a sheep like the rest of the flock.

Banquet of the Pittsburgh Petroleum Association.

The Pittsburgh Petroleum Association gave their Annual Banquet at the Monongahela House last evening. At five o'clock about one hundred and fifty Members of the Association, and invited guests, sat down to an exceedingly fine supper prepared under the direction of Mr. CROSSAN. It is useless to say that the bill of fare embraced not only the substantial dishes usual on such occasions, but all the delicacies of the season, set out in excellent taste, and served with the good style for which the "Monongahela" is famous. And the company, embracing most of our Pittsburgh oil barons, seemed in a humor to do the entertainment full justice. When this order of the occasion had been disposed of, James A. Hutchins, Esq., President of the Pittsburgh Petroleum Association, took the chair, when followed a series of toasts. As they were read felicitous responses were made by Messrs. Long, Rehew, Miller, (of Philadelphia,) Tack, Edgerton, Penniman, Collins, Barbour, Weisenberger, Moutzheimer, Brady, Tweedle, Brooks, Miller and others, all of whom were warmly applauded. The growth, present condition, and prospects of the oil trade were happily referred to, and it was not difficult to perceive that the Association was composed of a body of men who constitute a power second to none in Pittsburgh. The occasion—which was enlivened by a fine band of music—was in every respect an agreeable one, and in more than one respect will long be remembered by all present.

Buckeye Views of Educational Matters.

Some time since public attention was called to two of the colleges of Ohio, Marietta and Mount Vernon, by the announcement of liberal endowments raised for them, mainly, if not exclusively, in their own neighborhood. Thereupon we sought such information from gentlemen in the vicinity of these institutions, as we judged would be of practical interest to our own community. Courteous and satisfactory replies were returned to our letters of inquiry. The delay that has occurred in the use we designed to make of the items they enclosed has not impaired their suggestive force.

For example, it appears that the citizens of the town of Marietta, up to 1860, gave their college $80,000, which amount has since gone beyond $120,000. In 1862 Marietta township numbered less than 4,000 inhabitants, in 1860 between 6,000 and 7,000. The population may now be between 8,000 and 9,000. The amount of taxable property in the township, *per capita*, is less than the average of its neighbors. We learn farther, and this is a point the pastors of our churches should note, that the ordinary objects of Christian benevolence have as yet shown no symptoms of languishing in consequence of these extraordinary bestowments. Strange as it may seem, and contrary to all analogy, the exercise of this faculty of giving actually develops instead of shriveling it.

Of this $120,000, the largest sum given by one man was $45,000, and this along from 1833. In 1864 he used $25,000 of it to call out $75,000 more, and he had the pleasure of rounding the sum off into $100,000. When such men set out to give, they do not generally let other men's meanness stop them. In fact, they often succeed with their golden divining rod in finding latent liberality where conjurors of another class get no indications. Then, we are told of a goodly fellowship of men that number up to $25,000, $15,000, $5,000 and so on.

Our returns from Canton in reference to the field Mt. Vernon has been reaping are less full, but are quite significant. Three gentlemen gave each the endowment of a professorship, which, according to public opinion in that section of the country, ought not to be less than $25,000. These three gentlemen were the only wealthy men of a church of three hundred and fifty members, which added to their gifts a handsome $5,000 for contingencies and incidentals, we presume.

We would not for the world have our University moved to either Marietta or Canton. She has a host of just such friends immediately about her. Some of them, however, have not yet overcome the modesty of real worth so far as to let us hear from them. We are convinced that many an inverted bushel around us shall yet be turned up, and, as a consequence, a silver edge of light shall line the heavy cloud of smoke under which modern geographers locate our city.

Alabama.

Of the early admission of the State of Alabama to representation to Congress there is no doubt. When the counties which were shut out from voting have voted, it is highly probable that a majority of the voters registered will be found to have declared for the new constitution. Should this not be the case, however, and it appearing that a majority of those voting are for the constitution, it is altogether probable that Congress will bring the State back by a special enactment. The following is the State and Congressional ticket supported by those who sustained the constitution:

Governor—Wm. H. Smith, of Randolph.
Lieutenant Governor—A. S. Applegate, of Madison.
Secretary of State—Charles A. Miller, of Montgomery.
State Auditor—R. M. Reynolds, of Wilcox.
State Treasurer—Arthur Bingham, of Talladega.
Superintendent of Education—N. B. Cloud, of Montgomery.
Superintendent of Industrial Resources—John C. Keller, of Montgomery.
Attorney General—Joshua Morse, of Choctaw.
Supreme Court Judges—W. J. Hogan, of Tuscaloosa; T. M. Peters, of Lawrence; B. F. Saffold, of Dallas.
There are seven Congressional Districts in Alabama, and the candidates elected in five are as follows:
First District—F. W. Kellogg, of Mobile.
Second District—Charles W. Buckley, of Montgomery.
Third District—R. W. Norris, of Elmore.
Fourth District—Charles W. Hoge, of Marengo.
Fourth District—J. W. Burke, of Madison.

These, like the new State officers, are all white men of high character and ability, nominated by conventions composed largely of colored delegates.

Death of a Distinguished Scholar.

The papers of Rochester, New York, contains full obituaries of the late John F. Richardson, Professor of the Latin language and literature in the University of Rochester ever since its founding. Prof. Richardson was for many years connected with Madison University, New York, and has enjoyed the reputation of being one of the soundest and most accurate Latin scholars in the country. His work on the true pronunciation of the Roman tongue attracted marked attention among scholars in this country, and was noticed by English and continental linguists with a degree of approbation rarely accorded to any literary effort of an American origin. Prof. Richardson was a man of genial manners, rare kindness of heart and of that simplicity of character which marks a truly great man. His funeral was largely attended on Wednesday afternoon at the First Baptist Church of Rochester, of which the deceased was a loved and honored member. Appropriate addresses were made by the Rev. Mr. Robbins, pastor of the church, Rev. Dr. Kendrick and Rev. President Anderson, of the University of Rochester.

MR. JOHN A. BARCLAY, one of the surviving executors of Stephen Girard, with other citizens, has filed a bill in the Supreme Court, praying for a decree, in regard to the Girard College, that the trust has been abused and misused by the city of Philadelphia; that a decree shall be made that the Councils of the present city are not competent, under the will of Girard, to discharge the duties of maintaining the educating and caring for the orphans; that the said rights belong to the people of the old city, and that the Court appoint trustees selected from citizens of that part of Philadelphia competent by the will of Girard to administer the trust.

The latest musical sensation in New York is a young woman of Batavia, who plays two airs with her right hand, one with her left, and sings a fourth, simultaneously. Sweet medley.

ARKANSAS.

Synopsis of the New Constitution.

The constitution which the people of Arkansas will pass upon on the 15th or March authorizes an election by the people of four Supreme Judges, and the appointment by the Governor of one Chief Justice for eight years, with pay at the rate of $4,000 per annum, instead of $3,000, the Supreme Judges' salaries the same as before. It provides for counties levying a poll-tax of $1 for educational purposes, and compels three months' attendance in twelve at school, without distinction of color or sex. It enfranchises and provides for placing negroes on juries in common with white men, and disfranchises all who are disfranchised by the military bills, who shall vote against this Constitution, and appoints March 15th next for the vote on ratification and election of officers under the Constitution; authorizes Bowen, the President of the Convention, Brooks of Phillips, and Hodges of Pulaski, to appoint judges and ascertain the result of the vote, and when adopted to present the Constitution to the President of the United States for his ratification; their pay $8 per day. It provides for two elections to take place on that day: one election for or against the Constitution, at a ballot-box, under a supervision of registrators, according to acts of Congress: the other election to be held at another box, under supervision of judges appointed by Bowen, Brooks and Hodges, at which voters will be required to swear that, "I do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the State of Arkansas; that I am not excluded from registering by any of the clauses in section second of the fourteenth article of the State of Arkansas; that I will never countenance or aid in the secession of the State from the United States: that I accept the civil and political equality of all men before the law, and agree not to attempt to deprive any person or persons, on account of race, color, or previous condition, or any political or civil right, privilege or immunity enjoyed by any other classes of men;" and to vote for or against the Constitution, and for the election of officers under it.

The Twenty-Second District.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Public attention just now appears to be directed to the selection of a suitable successor to General Moorhead, that gentleman declining to longer represent us in Congress. One correspondent of the COMMERCIAL suggests James McAuley, Esq., of the Iron City Bank; another names Col. William Phillips, President of the Allegheny Valley Railroad for the position.

These are all honorable men, and whether statesmen or competent law makers, it will be conceded that few could surpass either of them in the negotiation of "gilt edge" or the manipulation of stocks. Indeed, it is suggested by the financial *quid nunes* that one of them is named in the interest of the "Bears" and the other that of the "Bulls."

It is fairly presumable that neither of these gentlemen will be seriously pressed for the Republican nomination. It must be apparent, too, without some new and more formidable candidate enters the list, that Thomas Howard, Esq., will be the successor of Gen. Moorhead. A lawyer of repute and of good standing in his profession, a staunch and reliable Republican, and a man who from its first organization has done good service for his party, not only in Allegheny, but other counties of the State, he has claims which will not be lightly passed over.

Can as much be truthfully said of any others aspiring to that nomination? Mr. Howard in a deliberative assembly such as the National Congress would be able to accomplish for his District and State much more than could be effected by what the correspondent of the COMMERCIAL is pleased to style a "Worker"—whatever that term may mean by Congressional psychology. The people stand greatly in need of the best men to be their representatives in Congress—men able to cope with the leaders of the opposition either on the floor or in the Committee rooms. However excellent and estimable gentlemen may otherwise be, how could they expect to steal success in their private affairs, it by no means follows that injudicious friends should urge their elevation to positions that they cannot honorably expected to fill with honor. Above all these are high considerations of party and public policy which at this time render it imperative that our District shall be represented by a man of ability in the largest sense of the term. That Mr. Howard is equal to the task, no one doubts, we think, be conceded. Believing this his friends will use every honorable means to place him in nomination.

SIXTH WARD.

Pittsburgh and Toledo Railroad Project.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I call the attention of our "Board of Trade" and the merchants and manufacturers of our city to the above important connection. At present we have not got the facilities we should and must have for the trade with Northern Ohio and Indiana, and the young State of Michigan, if we desire to increase it, or even retain the portion now enjoyed by us. This route, after leaving the "Pan Handle Road," west of Steubenville, passes through the fine agricultural counties of Carroll, Stark, Wayne, Loraine, Huron and Seneca to Tiffin, and thence to Toledo, there intersecting the various railroads to Northern Indiana, Detroit and the State of Michigan. It is an "air-line," and opens up a section of country which is enjoyed by rival cities, and through which what trade we have has to pass before reaching us by the present zig-zag route. Let us awake to our true interests, and not sit supinely waiting on others to build routes for us, but go boldly to work and show the projectors of this road that we are in earnest in assisting them by subscribing to their stock; also, by calling on the Pennsylvania Central Company, who no doubt will see the great feeder this road will be to them and give a helping hand. Our city requires this, and we have to do is to determine it shall be so.

PITTSBURGH.

[An article in reference to the above project will be found under the head of "Railway Matters" in to-day's paper.]

French Ideas about America.

The Philadelphia *Press* relates the following in connection with some words of praise bestowed upon M. Adolph Birgfield, the superintendent of the French troupe performing in that city: To give an idea of what was thought of our country by one of the members of the orchestra, we give the following *true* anecdote: Just before Mr. Birgfield left Paris to take the steamer bound for home, he was called upon by this gentleman, who desired to know if he could take with him as much baggage as he wished. Mr. Birgfield replied "yes," at the same time saying it would be well not to unnecessarily encumber himself as he could purchase almost anything he wished in Philadelphia and our other large cities. This information somewhat astonished the Frenchman, who explained that he had intended purchasing a piano, by way of forming which he expected to astonish the people across the water. He was told that it was just possible he would be able to secure as good if not a better piano in America than he could buy in France, and, after persuasion, was induced to give up his wished-for treasure. It was afterwards learned that the piano our friend intended to buy was one of American manufacture. This fact, however, he could not be made to believe.

The West and More Currency.

The Chicago *Tribune* denies that the West asks for more currency. It says: There are some persons, here as elsewhere, who would like to discharge their obligations in a thinner currency than we now have. To accede to their demands would not only be an act of injustice to others, but would be class legislation of the worst sort. The West, as compared with other sections of the country, and with Europe, is exceptionally prosperous, and is not interested in disturbing the existing state of things. The farmers, who constitute a large majority of our population, have generally got out of debt and managed to save something from the high prices they have received from their crops. They will be slow to give their assent to a measure which will diminish the purchasing power of the money they have already earned: and the member of Congress who votes to undervalue their property by watering the currency, will have a hard time in explaining his position.

St. Louis and Fort Benton.

The St. Louis *Republican* of the 13th says:—One of the New York papers, in noticing the fact that a company has been organized to run steamers between Sioux City and Fort Benton, seems to think that Chicago has executed a "flank movement" on St. Louis by this arrangement. But it so happens that St. Louis gentlemen are concerned in this business and have prepared to run a line of St. Louis boats from Sioux City. St. Louis may not be so secure from being flanked by such a movement after all. The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad connecting at Omaha with the Sioux City road will undoubtedly take a good deal of Chicago freight for Montana. But no power on earth can keep the Missouri river the carrying trade in spring and summer up to a well advanced period in the season. Boats from St. Louis will go loaded as heretofore. The establishment of the Sioux City line to Fort Benton is a benefit to St. Louis as well as Chicago.

MR. GREELEY'S last chapter of "Recollections" is devoted to the Spiritualists and their doctrines. His conclusion is as follows: On the whole (though I say it with regret) it seems to me that the great body of the Spiritualists have not been rendered better men and women—better husbands, wives, parents, children—by their new faith. I think some have been improved by it—while many, who were previously good, are good still—and some have morally deteriorated. I think the loose notions touching marriage, divorce, chastity and stern morality generally have advanced in the wake of "Spiritualism." And while I am aware that religious mania so-called has usually a purely material origin, so that revivals have often been charged with making persons insane whose insanity took its hue from the topic of the hour, but owed its existence to purely physical causes, I still judge that the aggregate of both insanity and suicide has been increased by "Spiritualism."

RAILWAY MATTERS.

The Railroad from Toledo to Pittsburgh—Other New Projects—Miscellaneous Railway Items.

—It is stated that a charter for the Pittsburgh and Toledo Railroad has been obtained, in accordance with the terms of which the road will pass through the counties of Jefferson, Carroll, Stark, Summit, Medina, Lorain, Huron, Seneca, Wood and Lucas. The application for the charter is signed by the wealthiest and most sucessful business men of Pittsburgh, Steubenville, Canton, Tiffin and Toledo. Referring to this project the Canton *Republican* of last week says:

"Among the many railroad projects that have engaged attention recently, that proposing to unite Toledo and Pittsburgh possesses the most vitality. The fact that the most urgent necessity exists for such a road, a necessity that presses alike upon the terminal and upon the intermediate points on the route, added to the fact that the road is capable of judging correctly, have induced that it is an entirely feasible undertaking, have induced a scrutiny of the subject and comparison of views and a determination to make a vigorous effort. The meeting at Wellington had a good effect in calling attention to the subject, and a more universal disposition to take hold of, and contribute to the enterprise by those living along the route could not be desired. From Toledo to Tiffin, 45 miles, the country is a dead level. From Tiffin to New London, forty-two miles east of Tiffin, the road bed is already in readiness for the ties, and the Tiffin people offer to donate this property, which would be worth $50,000, to New London. From Clinton or Massillon, and Canton to Carrollton, a distance of about seventy miles, there is a very feasible route all the way. From Carrollton to Steubenville, or some other point intersecting with the Pan Handle Railroad, the grading will not be without its difficulties, which are, however, by no means insurmountable. We must add, for ourself, that Canton, though proverbially slow to action, is alength fully aroused to the importance of uniting with the people of Toledo, Tiffin, Steubenville and Pittsburgh, and that the joint negotiations entered into by the places named look to immediate action."

A large and spirited meeting in the interest of the above project was held at Elyria on Tuesday. Two hundred delegates were present, from thirty different towns and cities, and a determination manifested to carry the enterprise to success. An Executive Committee of one from each town represented was appointed, and a sub-committee appointed to attend the Convention to be held at New Philadelphia on the 20th, at which representatives of the Baltimore and Ohio Road will be present. A survey will be made of the line from Toledo via Port Clinton, Sandusky and Medina at an early day.

—The Delaware *Gazette* says: "We notice from the Mt. Vernon and Bellefontaine papers that the citizens of those towns are holding meetings and taking steps to secure the passage of a contemplated new railroad through their towns. The road is to be run from Pittsburgh to some connecting point in the west, and is to be built in the interests of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company. Proposals have, we understand, been made to the present owners of the Cincinnati, with the unfinished portion of the old Springfield, Mt. Vernon and Pittsburgh road, between Delaware and a point in the eastern part of Knox county, from which point a track will be laid to Coshocton. The road in connection with it will be had with Pittsburgh. Over $200,000 have been expended in grading the road from Delaware east, and with a comparatively small outlay it can soon be made ready for the track. Steps are also being taken to secure what can be done with the old Delaware and Bellefontaine line, and if satisfactory arrangements can be made with the parties interested in that organization, it is intended to run from Delaware to Bellefontaine, where good connections will be secured.

—Messrs. John T. Beaver, H. S. Robbins, James F. Porter, Nelson Spencer, Charles Broadman, Lyman T. Soule, Luther N. Patterson and R. W. Smith have associated themselves together for the purpose of constructing a railroad from Youngstown, Mahoning county, to Ravenna, Trumbull county, via Newton Falls. The length of the proposed road is thirty-one miles, the capital stock $100,000, and the certificate of incorporation was filed on Wednesday.

—The Springfield, Ohio, *Advertiser* says: We hear it reported that the Little Miami Railroad, has leased the London Branch, and after the expiration of the present contract with the Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland Road, will run their cars through from Cincinnati, via Springfield to Columbus. We give it merely as a report, not being able to vouch for its correctness.

—A bill will be introduced at this session of the Pennsylvania Legislature for an extension of the time to commence the Hamburg and Slatington road, and also for authority to connect with the Ironton Railroad, at or in the vicinity of Ironton. The route of this road passes through a region comparatively undeveloped, but which a railroad would soon make one of the very richest sections in the State. It cannot only fail to tap the rich Schuylkill coal region for the New York market, but would give the rich and unequalled slate beds in Lynn and Albany an outlet to market, to say nothing of the lime, lumber, coal and agricultural trade that would be opened.

—The Erie, Pennsylvania Central, and New York Central, it is said, have agreed upon rates of freight and a passenger tariff of a character to largely increase the profits. All baggage above 100 pounds for passengers is now charged for as first-class freight, and a general effort made to get pay for a good deal of heretofore volunteer services.

—Messrs. Andrew Price and Francis B. Hayes, of Boston, are now in St. Louis, with a view to the purchase and completion of the Southwest Pacific Railroad. They represent two million dollars of cash subscriptions.

PERSONAL.

—A Paris letter says: In my last I informed your readers that the union between Mlle. Adelina Patti and the Marquis de Caux had been irrevocably broken off. It is so; but can dreams be irrevocably forgotten? The young Marquis whose only misfortune is to have more aristocracy than capital, is quite a victim. He was last seen at Rouen in a side box, during the Diva's performance of "Lucia" in that city. A strange rumor concerning her journey north has been told. She was expected at Havre, and the performance was ticketed, when suddenly Mr. Bagler, the manager of the Italiens, to whom she is engaged for all this season, put his veto to her appearing before Havre. When the question was asked why he had authorized her to play at Rouen (where the small Opera House made in one evening 12,000f.), the Havrais were informed that an American vessel on the point of sailing was invaded by a crew of enterprising young men who had sworn to carry the prima donna off to New York, Mr. Strakosch, her manager, nothing loath. This is the story, and may not be so improbable and romantic as it appears. Patti is more than ever in fashion. The other day Rouen gave her an ovation such as no other person had received from it. The flattered Diva wanted to go to Havre, the other Norman city, where a similar welcome was being prepared for her. But the manager of her theater objected to it, owing, they say, to the fact that there was an American steamboat there ready to carry her away by force and bear her to America! That is the newspaper story. It is unnecessary to say that no one believes a word of it. But as Patti and her sister, who are at present traveling through the province with the famous pianist Wolf and some other eminent musicians, are the musical celebrities of France, this story has been as unanimously concerning the two American fairies, as they are called.

—The Rev. Isaac Leeser, whose death is recorded by the Jewish papers, was not merely a man of mark, but in some respects the most eminent Hebrew in America. Born at Westphalia, Germany, he came in 1828, when twenty-two years old to Richmond, and found himself the only minister in the country competent to discharge the pulpit services of the synagogue in the English language. At that time, as we learn from the sketch of his career in the *Jewish Messenger*, American Jews numbered but 1,000, while now they are little less than 500,000, and had but ten congregations, while now there are 200. In 1829 Mr. Leeser took charge of a Philadelphia synagogue, where he remained for twenty-one years, where another congregation was formed for him with which he continued until the last twenty-seven years he conducted the *Occident*, a monthly magazine which was the first, and for many years, the only Jewish periodical in America. Aside from this, his literary labors were immense, consulting, we are told by the authority already quoted, "the major part of American Jewish literature;" among his works were numerous text books, and volumes on devotional, religious, and controversial subjects, and an entire English version of the Scriptures, while he was the leader of orthodox Judaism in the opposition to the encroachments of the liberal element. He was a member of many of the Hebrew societies, and had recently been made Dean of the Faculty of Maimonides College.

—Rev. David H. Riddle, D.D., of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, formerly of Jersey City, has accepted a call from the Presbyterian church at Martinsburg, Virginia, and expects to become connected with the Presbytery of Winchester. A new church has also been organized at Martinsburg by the Presbytery of Carlisle, in connection with the Old School Assembly.

—The death of Mr. Claudet, who discovered the process by which a daguerreotype portrait could be obtained in twenty minutes (by fixing of the image by chloride of gold), is reported as having taken place in London, on the last week of December. He was a Frenchman, and had passed the "three score years and ten" of man's ordinary life.

—Mr. Eugene Haywood is now put down on the tax-list of Illinois as the largest land-owner in that State. He holds fifty thousand acres, purchased by his father fifty years ago. Recently he purchased twelve thousand acres in Nebraska, at a cost of about seventy-nine cents an acre. He is only twenty-two years of age.

—It is related of the youngest member of the Murat family that, finding his annual income of five thousand dollars insufficient, he resorts to the gaming table to eke out the balance. He played some time since with his most intimate friend, Aquado, while the latter was in a cloudy state of mind, and won $30,000 from him. Aquado, like Murat, is a minor, and was compelled to resort to inconvenient methods to raise the money. The matter finally became compromised, and the Emperor, who has found it necessary to arrange the matter, will probably be out $400,000 by the exploit.

The Baltimore *American* says: "We do not believe that in all Maryland there are one thousand Democrats who would not vote for the re-establishment of slavery if that question was submitted to them. As it is, they have placed in the Constitution of the State a demand for compensation for their slaves."

OHIO NEWS.

A man and his wife, living near Elmore, on the Cleveland and Toledo Road, recently left home and went to a neighbor's, a short distance off, leaving two small children at home. During their absence their house took fire, and when they returned, not a vestige of house or children remained.

The Ashtabula *Sentinel* says the snow at that place recently was almost blackened by millions of small insects. They were called snow fleas, though a microscopic examination shows them to be quite different from fleas. They are black, with two prominent feelers and long body, and in shape resemble the large pinching bug, and as active as grasshoppers. They appear to come up through the snow from the ground, play on the surface of it and return into it.

The Conneaut *Reporter* says Deacon Daniel Maltbie and wife, long among the pillars of the Congregational Church, at Saybrook, celebrated their golden wedding on the 1st inst. Sixty Maltbies were of the company. Their twelve children—six sons and six daughters—are all married, and, with their wives and husbands and the sixteen grand children, were all present—coming from homes scattered from Connecticut to Iowa.

The *Western Reserve Chronicle* gives an account of a lawsuit growing out of a general row at a minister's donation party, occasioned by the attendance there of a lady who was not acceptable to the managers, one of whom attempted to put her and her friends out of doors. She brought suit against the owner of the house before the party was held, for assault and battery, and he was bound over to the Common Pleas Court.

The great patent suit of Densmore et al. vs. the Cleveland Oil Tank Company was concluded in the United States Circuit Court at Cleveland on the 12th inst., and resulted in a verdict for the defendants. The cause excited great interest, and a first-rate case was made for the plaintiffs. Judge Sherman charged in their favor on most of the points, but against them on a technical point in the specifications of the patent, and this had the effect to decide the case adversely. The case will now go before the United States Supreme Court on a writ of error, and this technical point will be settled.

At the recent meeting of the Tuscarawas County Agricultural Society, the following officers and directors were elected: G. Riker, President; S. Kuhn

The Daily Commercial

MRS. BROWN'S BUDGET.

The Casual Lodger.

It was more than five years ago and upwards as Mrs. Goldin' as lived opposite to me down Stephen way come in and says, 'Mrs Brown, mum, could you oblige me lettin' a party as did used to lodge with me'ave a bed for a night or two?'

I says, 'Excuse Mrs. Goldin,' a-refusin', but casuals is parties as I do not 'old with, thro' well rememberin' a lodger as Mrs. Warne as lived in Horseldydown took in, and carried off the very feathers from out of the bed, a-fillin' up their sick with shavin's.'

'Oh,' she says, 'this, 'ere party is 'ighly respectable, and 'as got relations a-livin' at the West end, as is quite quality thro' bein' tit-tled.'

I says, 'Ah, indeed; but what sort of quality? cos,' I says, 'there's a many as lives at the West End as 'olds up their 'eads very 'igh a-drivin' out in their pony pheatons, as I wouldn't be seen myself a-goin to a fair in the same cart along with.'

'Oh,' she says, 'this Wilkins is quite the gentleman tho' down in the world and he's a-goin' abroad in a few days and wants to live near the docks; and,' she says, 'I'll be answerable for 'im.'

I didn't much fancy takin' on 'im, but she said it was only for three days, leastways nights, as he'd be out all day, at the outside. So at last I give in and said as he might come, and come he did that werry evenin' not a-bringin' much with him, and a-sayin' as 'is boxes was aboard ship.

The moment as I set eyes on 'im I says to myself, 'Lushin'ton is the word,' as I knowed by 'is bloated look as he'd got, and bloodshot eyes as was a-starin' out of 'is 'ad thro' drink, and all as that sloven as looked the drunkard all over.

He didn't say much, only as he were goin' out and wouldn't be in till about ten o'clock.

It was just on one when I let 'im in myself that gone in liquor as I didn't let 'im 'ave no candle, and made up my mind as he should walk 'is chalks, as the sayin' is, the fust thing in the mornin'.

Somehow I couldn't get to sleep, not comfortable, for I kep' fancyin' as I 'eard that party a-movin', and at last I couldn't bear it no longer, and out of bed I gets and goes to 'is door to listen.

It was a wild night, a-blowin' great guns, as the sayin' is, and the rain a-comin' down in torrents.

I was struck all of a 'eap when I got to 'is door, seeing as he'd got a light as showed under.

I listens attentive, and if he wasn't a-stroppin' of a razor.

It gives me such a frightful turn as fust, but then I thought as p'raps he'd got to go aboard ship early, and thought as I'd go and wake Brown, but somethin' come over me as made me turn the 'andle of the door and look in.

There was that feller with his shirt and trousers on and 'is neck all bare a-brandishin' of the razor about and a-ravin' like.

I was up to 'im in a hinstant, and knocks 'is 'and down and sent the razor a-flyin', and ketched 'old of both 'is arms, and hollars, 'Murder,' that loud as I brought Brown in pretty quick.

It was werry soon aperient to us both as he'd got the delirous trimmins and was ravin' mad.

So Brown 'eld 'im down in bed while I'ad for to go and knock Mrs. Goldin' up, and fetch the doctor.

Mrs. Goldin' she was a-goin' to cut up rough at fust, and says, 'I wishes you wouldn't come a-troublin' me about your lodgers.'

I says, 'My lodgers, well, I likes that, as I only took 'im in to oblige you.'

She a'nt a bad sort that Mrs. Goldin', for she werry soon came round, and says,, Mrs Brown, you'll excuse my 'asty ways; but,' she says, 'the truth is he's lodged wi h me thro' 'is wife,' family a-payin' for 'im, as is 'ighly respectable—even noble—where I once did used to live 'ouse maid.'

Well, the doctor, he says as soon as he see 'im, 'You'd better send 'im to the workus, for he'll be a deal of trouble thro' bein' a mask of disease and no constitution left.'

Says Mrs. Goldin', 'Keep 'im for a day or so till I can send to 'is friends,' as I agreed to, but 'ad a nurse for to watch 'im, not as he showed no more wiolence from after the fust, and was kep' up constant with strong beef tea and brandy.

But law, poor creetur, when he was undressed there wasn't nothink on 'im, with a arm no thicker than my two fingers, and might count 'is ribs for thinness; and I never did see such a doormat of a 'ead of 'air as he had, as I pretty soon set to and clipped off short for to put ice to 'is head.

It was towards evenin' as Mrs. Goldin' come in with a letter as she'd 'ad about 'im, as said he was a worthless wretch, and 'ad brought disgrace on 'is family; but that he was to 'ave what was necessary to keep him out of the workus.

'Well,' I says, 'that's a kind 'art as wrote that letter, no doubt some lawyer, as in general is a stony lot, and of course can't be expected for to feel for them as employs them, but only get all as they can out on 'em.'

'Oh,' she says, 'it ain't a lawyer as 'as wrote this, but she's a lawyer's daughter.'

I says, 'You don't mean to say as that's the letter of a woman?'

'Yes,' she says, 'it is, and more than that, she's that man's wife as is a-lying up-stairs.'

I says, 'Whatever 'as he done for 'er to write like that about 'er own 'usband?'

'Well,' she says, 'it's a singler case all over, for it was a love match, as 'er father—as is Sir Nicklass Seddins—never would 'ear on, thro' bein' that proud, tho' only a barber's son 'isself over in the Boro', as 'ad made 'is way in the world thro' bein' a lawyer's clerk, as werry nigh got transported 'isself thro' a-cheatin' of a poor sellor out of 'is prize-money but got off, and would 'ave been ruined only 'is master's widder—as was a werry rich counsellor and left 'er every farthin'—took and married 'im as 'ad only been cook 'erself with rather a fly-blowed character. Talk of Lucifer bein' proud he was nothing to them two as lived up by Bedford square, and 'ad used to goto St. Giles's church of a Sunday as big as bull-beef, with the footman behind 'em a-carryin' their books.

'don't think as ever I see a plainer family tho' only three, and one of them a 'ump-back. Well, the youngest, as was a gal as ugly as 'er father and as proud as 'er mother, she was kep' a mopy sort of life, and if she didn't go and fall in love with 'er father's clerk in the name of Wilkins, as is this werry identical lunatic. She knowed it wouldn't be no use a-askin' their consent, so went and got married on the quiet, unbeknown to 'er father and mother, and it was werry nigh two year afore they found it out. I never shall forget the row there was when it was found out, and I've no doubt 'er little boy bein' a cripple is owin' to 'er father's wiolence, as knocked 'er down like a bullock on the 'earth-rug. She was always a beast of a temper, and no doubt made that young man's life a misery, and never a 'appy 'ome, tho' they did give 'er the money for to take a 'ouse up Kentish Town way, and 'er a-comin' for to dine with 'er parents of a Sunday, but 'im never allowed for to cross the door.'

'Then,' I says, 'Mrs. Goldin', mark my words, she wasn't never a tru-'earted woman, for no one as is would put up with 'er 'usband bein' treated like that, not by all the fathers as ever was born.'

She says, 'That's right, that is; and,' she says, 'he wouldn't stand it no longer, for Christmas Day she was a dinin' there, and about nine o'clock he come to the 'ouse to say as he wanted 'er to come 'ome, and if that little dirty barber's boy of a father of 'ern didn't tell the footman to slam the door in 'is face.'

'Flesh and blood wouldn't stand sich insults, so he took and knocked and rung that wiolent, as down went old Sir Nicklass 'isself in a rage, and flew out that wiolent, but got as good as he brought from his son-in-law, as said he would 'ave 'is wife, and obligated she was for to go.

'I don't believe as ever there was a moment's peace after that, and in less than six months they was parted thro' 'er a-comin' to 'er father with a black eye, as-sayin' as he'd give 'er a good 'idin' with the 'arth-broom, and then sibled a flat candlestick at 'er.

'It's about three year ago now, and I'adn't set eyes on any on 'em for years, when he come to my place, and asked to 'ave 'im as a lodger.

I didn't like to refuse for I'd know'd all about 'im so long, and Goldin' 'ad showed more than me, thro' havin' lived coachman with old Sir Nicklass. So we agreed to take 'im.

'He lived with me over a twelvemonth very quiet, a-supportin' 'isself by copyin', as is poor work, and then he fell ill, and week after week, and I didn't hear no more on 'im till the other day, when he turned up all of a sudden, and said as he'd been abroad, and was only here for a few days, as the wessel was a-goin' to sail in a day or two as he was a goin' out in.

'I do believe as that young man—for he was seven years younger than that ugly Jane Seddins, as married 'im more than 'im marryin' on 'er—would 'ave been a good 'usband if he 'adn't been treated like a dog, and never allowed to see 'is own child, which, though a object, was his own flesh and blood all the same.'

I couldn't but feel for that poor feller arter Mrs. Goldin' 'ad told me 'is story, and a nice-spoken young man—leastways, only just turned thirty, and must 'ave been 'andsome but for drink and dissipation, as'll soon play Old'Arry with your looks.

He was quiet quite and reasonable like, and I cond manage 'im a deal better than the nuss, tho' a werry nice woman, but a little sharp in 'er ways.

I was a-givin' 'im some beef-tea one day about twelve o'clock, when he'd been in my 'ouse about ten days, when he says to me, 'Mrs. Brown, do you think as I shall get over it?'

I says, 'With great care you may, but,' I says, 'you 'll require the werry greatest.'

He says, with a deep sigh, 'I feel weaker and weaker every day. I asked the doctor to-day whether he thought I was getting better, and he said I didn't get on as quickly as he could wish.'

I know'd well as doctor, as was Mr. Dixon, didn't 'ave no opinion on 'im thro' a-telling me as his liver was all wrong, as I'd know'd were 'opeless of a cure.

I says to 'im, 'Do you think, Mr. Dixon, as he'll lay long?'

He says, 'Mrs. Brown, I do not, for,' he says, 'he got no strength for to rally on, and,' he says, 'his lungs is diseased, as is death in itself, as is well known.'

I don't 'old with agivin' any one false 'opes, tho' a duty for to keep up their sperrits.

So I says, 'Mr. Wilkins, you 're werry ill, but,' I says, 'you 're in the prime of life, as is a great thing; but,' I says 'aven't you no freinds as you'd like for to let 'em know 'ow ill you are?'

He didn't make no reply, but laid 'isself back on his pillier, a turnin' deadly faint like as he was subject to, as is a thing I don't like to see, and altogether I know'd he was wuss by 'is symptoms, as was ugly.

So he says to me when he was come to, 'I wants to write a note.'

I says, 'So you shall.'

'I want it taken,' says he, 'to-day.'

I says, 'That shall be done.'

It was a longish job for me a-writin' that note, and when it was finished he directs it, and says, 'I want some one to go as can bring me back a answer.'

I says, 'All right,' and takes it over to Mrs. Goldin'.

As soon as ever she sees it she says, 'He's wrote to 'is wife.' She says, 'I am that glad I'd take it myself but for my rheumatics.'

I says, 'Why, you can't 'ardly crawl across the room, let alone go all that way.'

She says, 'I should like some one to take it as can be trusted to, for they 're such a lyin' let they 're quite capable of sayin, as they never received it.

'Oh,' I says, 'I'll take care of that, for I'll go myself, and will give it into 'er own 'ands, and nobody's else's.'

She says, 'You're a trump and no mistake; and,' she says, 'it's only just two, and I'll wait tea till you comes back.'

I wasn't long a gettin' ready, tho' I dressed myself werry genteel, and got a 'bus as set me down in Holborn not far from where them parties was a-livin'.

It was a gloomy lookin, 'ouse, that Sir Nicklas a's and furnished dingy.

A werry civil young man opened the door, as said Mrs. Wilkins were at 'ome.

So I says, 'Please to tell 'er as Mrs. Brown would be glad for to speak to 'er.'

He came back, and says I was to send up what my business was.

I says, 'I aint in no business.'

He says, 'You're to tell me what you've come about.'

I says, 'You go back and say as my business is what she wouldn't wish others for to 'ear.'

I see as he was a-dyin' of curiosity to 'ear what I wanted, as I wasn't a-goin' to give in to.

Off he goes, and soon comes back a-tellin' me to follow 'im, as I did, up to the fust-door back, where two ladies was a-settin'.

When I says ladies, they wasn't not real ladies, and both as ugly as sin.

I makes my obedience to 'em, and the oldest one, she says, Well, my good woman, what is it?'

I says, 'Are you Mrs. Wilkins?,

She says. 'No.'

'I'm Mrs. Wilkins,' says the other, as was a old scrag with a toad-skin complexion; and lobster eyes.

I says, 'Then here's a letter for you as I'm to wait for an answer to.'

'Says the old lady, a-turnin' on me, 'Why didn't you send it up, and wait below for an answer?'

I says, 'Are you Mrs. Wilkins?,

She says. 'No.'

'I'm Mrs. Wilkins,' says the other, as was a old scrag with a toad-skin complexion; and lobster eyes.

I says, 'Then here's a letter for you as I'm to wait for an answer to.'

'Says the old lady, a-turnin' on me, 'Why didn't you send it up, and wait below for an answer?'

I says, 'I aint intrudin' on no lady when I comes where you are.'

She says, 'Jane, ring the bell, and 'ave 'er turned out of the 'ouse.'

Jest then a little lantern-jawed man come in from the next room, with a weasel face and a old brown wig on as I wouldn't 'ave picked out of a dusty-hole.

'What's this?' he says, a-nettin' of his brows.

'Oh,' says the old woman, 'only that wagabone Wilkins a-tormentin' us again, and 'as sent this abusive old female 'ere to extort money.'

He says, 'He shouldn't 'ave a farthin more not to save 'im from 'angin.'

I says, 'He's dyin.'

He says, 'I'm glad on it.'

I says to 'im, 'I don't know who you are, or what you are, but I ain't goin' to be insulted neither by you nor by that foul-mouthed old limey. I've done what I promised to do, and I'm goin', but I tell you what it is, if you don't do what is proper by that dyin' man, I shall apply to the parish, and I'll get it all in the papers, as,' I says, 'will read werry nice, and all about the family, as may 'old your 'eads werry 'igh as p'raps every one don't know about your antecedent, as well as me.'

He says, 'Get out, you low wagabone.'

I says, 'I'm a-goin', don't frighten yourself. So,' I says, 'Mr. Sir Barber, and Mrs. Lady the Cook, I wishes you good arternoon,' and out of the room I flounces.

The little old man he follows me and says, 'I'll send for a policeman.'

I says, 'Do, and mind as he takes the right one, as mayn't get off so easy as he did the last time.'

I wish you could 'ave see 'is face without a 'earin' the lang widge as he give vent to' but I didn't care for 'im, a wicked old 'ard 'earted wretch.

He hollers down stairs to the footman. 'Turn that low creetur out of the 'ouse.'

So I says, 'He'd better turn you out if he wants to do that,' and out I goes.

I was sorry as I'd got that warm when I was in the street, but as I know'd she'd got the letter didn't care so much.

When I got back to Mrs. Goldin' I thought as she'd 'ave died a-larin' at me a-tellin' 'er all as I'd said and done and when I'd 'ad a cup of tea I goes 'ome.

I did not like the thought of that poor feller the moment as I set eyes on 'im, but I told 'im as 'is note had been delivered and a answer would be sent, as seemed to pacify 'im, but as night got on he says to me, 'Mrs. Brown, I feel much worse to-night.'

I says, 'Shall I send for Mr. Dixon?'

He says, 'No; its no use disturbin' 'im.'

I says, 'It aint eight o'clock.'

He says, 'He can do me no good; but,' he says, 'I wish you would send for a clergyman.'

I says, 'That I will; but,' I says, 'whatever sort for there's so many about here.'

He says, 'There's the name and address,' a-givin' me a card.

I says, 'Do you wish 'im to come to-night?'

He says, 'Yes.'

Well, it wasn't far, so I sent the gal, and I think in less than arf a 'our that clergyman was with 'im, as must have stayed over a 'our; and when he went away, said as he'd come in early the next day, as he did accordin'.

After he was gone, Mr. Wilkins says to me, 'Is there no letter for me? Has no one been?'

I says, 'No, and,' I says, 'don't wex yourself about them you 've done your uttermost, and can do no more.'

He says, 'I must see 'er, for I've been a bad 'usband and can't die in peace till she says she forgives me.'

I could 'ave bit my tongue out I was so vexed with myself for 'avin' aggravated them so.'

I didn't know what to do, and my 'art was a-bleedin' for to 'ear 'im keep sayin', 'Pray send for 'er, I'm sure she'll come.'

I felt there wasn't nothink for it but to go and speak to that clergyman. So I goes, late as it was, and tells him all as 'ad passed. He spoke werry kind, tho, blalmin' me for lettin' my temper get the better on me; but said as he'd go 'isself and see the lady.

It was about two in the arternoon the next day when he come back, and says, 'I can escuse you, Mrs. Brown, a-losin' your temper, for I never met with such a disgustin' want of feelin'; but,' he says, 'we'd better keep it from 'im.'

I says, 'Poor, dear, he's a-sinkin', but keeps askin' for 'er.'

We went up into the room together, me and that clergyman, as knelt down by the bedside and spoke beautiful about forgivin' enemies.

The poor feller says. 'Oh, she won't come! Well, I must bear it as part of my punishment; but,' he says, 'I wished to 'ave shaken 'ands with her and 'ave seen the boy. I know I've behaved badly, but did hope she'd believe my repentance sincere.'

I see such change come over 'im, as I says to the clergyman, 'Let me lift 'im up.'

He says, 'I will,' and took 'im in 'is arms quite tender, while I give 'im a little brandy and water.

Just as he took it up, I'eard a rap at the door and down stairs I goes to open it, and there stood a cab, and I see it as was Mrs. Wilkins as was in it, and a little boy with 'er as were a clumpy foot.

She come into the 'ouse, and says, 'Am I in time?'

I says, 'It's as much as you are; follow me.'

I went into the room werry quite, and she stood on the landin'a-tremblin' and 'oldin' the little boy's 'and.

It was awful picter for any one, let alone a wife, for there he was a-dyin' fast, 'eld up in that clergyman's arms, as I whispers to 'im as she were come.

The poor feller looks at me, and says, 'I know it: I knew she'd come. Let me see her—let me see them.'

In a instant they was by 'is side, and all as I could 'ear 'im say was, 'Forgive me, pray forgive me,' and see 'im clasp the little boy in 'is arms, while she bent over 'im to kiss 'im.

The clergyman he moved away, and placed 'im gently in 'er arms, and then we left them; but it wasn't for long. I don't think as it could 'ave been five minutes afore I 'eard her call out, and rushes in to see 'er a-wringin' of 'er 'ands over 'is dead body, as the poor little boy were a-clingin' to, a-saying, 'Papa, papa, dear papa, don't die.'

I never see a sweeter smile than there was on that dead man's lips, as looked so 'appy, while that foolish woman was mad with grief.

She 'olds out both 'er 'ands to me, a-saying, 'Forgive the way we treated you.'

I says, 'It's for me to say mum, 'ow sorry I am as I forgot myself.'

'Oh,' she says, 'you were provoked: but I didn't think he was so very ill.'

I says, 'I'm glad you come; but,' I says, 'take that dear child away, whatever you do, for I could see as the shock 'ad been too much for 'im.

So I says to the clergyman, 'He did ought to by made to cry, as will relieve 'im.'

So he says to 'im, 'Your poor dear papa is gone, my dear, to a better world, I 'ope, and you won't never see 'im 'ere no more, but if you're a good boy you'll meet 'im in 'even.'

Them words seem to break 'arf the child's comprehension like, and he bust out a cryin', and went away with his ma sobbin' fit to break 'is 'art.

They give 'im funeral like a gentleman; but only the clergyman and a lawyer followed.

No doubt he 'ad 'is faults, but I don't envy them parties their feelin's, for I'm sure them folks 'asn't got up 'arts, but only flint-stones; and as to 'is widder, p'raps she's to be pitied, for she was quite under their thumbs, as the sayin' is.—*Arthur Sketchley.*

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA.
HARRISBURG, December 18, 1867.

NOTICE
TO THE
HOLDERS OF THE
LOANS
OF THE
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
DUE JULY 1st, 1868.
THE FOLLOWING
LOANS,
DUE JULY 1st, 1868,
WILL BE REDEEMED WITH INTEREST TO DATE OF PAYMENT ON PRESENTATION AT THE
FARMERS' AND MECHANICS'
NATIONAL BANK,
or
PHILADELPHIA.
VIZ:
LOAN OF MARCH 27, 1839; DUE JULY 1, 1868.
LOAN OF JULY 19, 1839, DUE JULY 1, 1868.
Interest on the above Loans will cease on the 1st OF JULY, 1868.
FRANCIS JORDAN,
SECRETARY OF STATE,
JOHN F. HARTRANFT,
AUDITOR GENERAL,
W. H. KEMBLE,
STATE TREASURER.
cod *COMMISSIONERS OF SINKING FUND.*

BANKRUPTCY.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES, FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.
MICHAEL KRAMER, Bankrupt.
A Bankrupt under the Act of Congress of March 2d, 1867. Having applied for a discharge from all his debts, and other claims provable under said Act, by order of the Court, notice is hereby given, to all creditors who have proved their debts, and other persons interested, to appear on the 27th day of February, 1868, at 11 o'clock A. M., before SAMUEL HARPER, Esq., Register, at his Office, No. 93 DIAMOND STREET, Pittsburgh, Penn., to show cause, if any they have, why a discharge should not be granted to the said Bankrupt.
S. C. McCANDLESS,
W Clerk of U. S. District Court for said Dist.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.
In the matter of William Burns, Bankrupt, surviving partner of S & W. Burns, Jr. Bankrupt.
To whom it may concern: The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as Assignee of WILLIAM BURNS, late surviving partner of S. & W. Burns, of Cursica, in the county of Jefferson and State of Pennsylvania, which said William Burns has been adjudged a Bankrupt on his own petition, by the District Court of said District, dated
J. P. JONES,
Limestone, Clarion co., Pa., Dec. 6, 1867. w

PROPOSALS.

BUILDING PROPOSALS.
PROPOSALS will be received by the BIRMINGHAM GAS COMPANY for
EXCAVATING A TANK.
For a Gas Holder, the excavation to be about 90 feet in diameter by 24 feet in depth.
Also, for LAYING A STONE WALL around the sides of said Tank, three feet in width at the bottom by two feet at the top and twenty-four feet in height. Said wall to be built of good, large-sized stone, and thoroughly filled in with mortar.
Further proposals are desired for furnishing about 180,000 BRICK, and LAYING a Wall and Floor within the above named stone wall.
The best quality of hard brick will be required, and they must be carefully laid in cement the latter to be furnished by the Gas Company. The entire work subject at all times to the inspection and approval of the Gas Company, who also reserve the right to refuse all bids received.
Proposals should be sent to the office of the Company, in Birmingham, where the lot to be excavated will be shown, and further information given.
Bids will be received until the 1st of MARCH.
D. ROBINSON, Secretary.

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WM. SEMPLE'S,
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Federal Street, Allegheny.
AT 9c, DARK PRINTS;
AT 12 1-2c, GOOD PRINTS;
AT 10c, DARK GINGHAMS;
AT 12 1-2c, FIGURED DELAINES;
AT 12 1-2c, YARD WIDE HEAVY;
AT 12 1-2c, Yard Wide BLEACHED SHIRTING MUSLIN;
AT 12 1-2c, KENTUCKY JEANS;
AT 25c, Yard Wide FEATHER TICKING
AT 50c, Black and Colored BROCADE ALPACA;
AT 12 1-2c 175 dozen Red Bordered LINEN TOWELS;
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THE WESTMORELAND COUNTY HOMICIDE.

Trial of Samuel Hull for the Murder of Charles H. Parker.

CLOSING ARGUMENT BY MR. HUNTER

The Conclusion of the Case.

CHARGE OF JUDGE BUFFINGTON.

VERDICT OF THE JURY.

Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree.

The trial of Samuel Hull for the murder of Charles H. Parker which has occupied the attention of the Court of Oyer and Terminer of Westmoreland county since Thursday, was concluded yesterday morning. The case has been one of the most interesting that has occurred in the county since the trial of Hugh Corrigan, for the murder of his wife, in 1856. Eminent counsel was secured on both sides, and every point was ably contested. Many persons came from a distance, and remained at Greensburg during the entire trial, while one hundred was the usual number that arrived from Cambria county on the Johnstown Accommodation every morning and returned in the evening. The attendance in the Court room yesterday morning was much larger than on any previous occasion, every seat being occupied, and the aisles closely packed.

SPEECH OF MR. HUNTER.

The Court assembled at nine o'clock, when James A. Hunter, Esq., proceeded to deliver the closing argument for the defense. Mr. Hunter commenced his remarks by congratulating the jury upon the speedy conclusion of the case, which had called them away from the quiet avocations of life to sit in judgment on a fellow man. The duty, although an unpleasant one, was one that should be met firmly, honestly and deliberately. He desired to direct consideration to the proposition made by one of the counsel for defense that the Commonwealth's counsel wished to place feathers in their caps by counsel [illegible] man. Such was not the case. The only object was one, the law vindicated, that full justice was done, old sacred from the and the lives of the people [illegible] would not assassin's dagger. The Commonwealth did not insist upon conviction unless the conclusion was warranted by the evidence. The counsel for the defense had stated that every man was considered innocent until proven guilty, and that the prisoner was entitled to the benefit of all doubts. The doubts in the minds of the jury must, however, be serious and substantial. The speaker then stated that he did not ask the jury to take his word in the premises, but would raise the language of the law. He then read the law in regard to the different degrees of murder, and argued that the evidence proved conclusively that the prisoner was guilty of murder in the first degree. He had never entertained any doubt that the murder of his friend, Charles H. Parker, had been deliberate, and that Hull struck the fatal blow. Parker would not have been so foolish as to draw a knife to plunge his knife into his body! Was any provocation given? The jurors were the judges, and if they rendered a verdict adverse to the Commonwealth the decision would be cheerfully acquiesced in. Sometimes in such cases there was a desire to render a compromise verdict—to labor for a minor grade. How many murderers, whose hands are red with blood, were allowed to go free because of our humanity and the technicalities of law! We must get rid of this extreme sensitiveness, and do our duty, let the consequences fall where they may. Murder is such a terrible crime that he could not exhibit it can only remove the guilt with his blood.

It had been charged by the defendants' counsel that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company—which was characterized as a "brainless, soulless corporation"—was the prosecutor in the case. This charge was a false one. The speaker would only say that he did not appear for the Railroad Company—it had no counsel present, nor had it taken any part in the case. He appeared at the request of a heart-broken widow, a wreck on the sea of life, whose mind and her body almost gone. The Railroad company lost a faithful servant, an efficient officer, a kind and gentlemanly man, who, it was admitted, was in almost every instance, by his steadiness when they were demanded for the comfort of the passengers under his charge. Charles Parker, when in the regular line of his business as conductor of the Johnstown Accommodation train, was slain by with a lifeless body, falling about the mercy of life. Hull entered the train, and upon receiving his change from the conductor, made all manner of threats. At the suggestion of the gentleman standing behind him, Parker took out his book and showed him the bill. He did not then sit down quietly, but became so disorderly that it was found necessary to eject him.

One point in the evidence had been overlooked by the defense. The difficulty originated between Hull and the brakeman. Why did not Hull strike at the brakeman, who, he alleged had his money, instead of at Parker, who was standing behind the brakeman? Does it not seem that he intended to inflict injury on Parker from the beginning? Parker dodged the blow, and, instead of retaliating, walked to a seat, and sat down. The conductor was at his proper place, and it was his duty to maintain order and protect the passengers from blackguards. Hull had been at Florence, and after rowdying there all day appeared on the train without a ticket. An effort had been made to prevent him, as he was intoxicated, but Mitchell, who had been with him all day, could not swear to the fact. It had also been said that if the conductor had collected the fare himself difficulty would have been avoided. Such would not have been the case, as Jones, the brakeman, showed every disposition to quiet him, but could not prevent him from cursing, swearing and offering to fight every one on the train.

The speaker said that he did not believe the weapon with which the murder had been committed had been found. From the nature of the wound itself it was apparent that Hull must have used the knife that Mitchell sharpened for him that morning in the shoemaker's shop at New Florence. Whatever weapon was used it was ready and hard. Parker was cut down without time to say a prayer, except in the name of his wife. If the harshest punishment known in law was applied to the prisoner, his condition would be infinitely better than poor Parker, because he would have time to prepare to die. The execution of Hull would not benefit the widow—it would not bring back her husband from his quiet resting place in the Mountain. She had gone home sick, perhaps to die. The jury could not heal her broken heart, could not restore to her hearthstone her husband; but it could say that no more husbands should be murdered; no more wives made widows; no more hearthstones rendered desolate by this man. The speaker concluded by remarking that he might have been a little emphatic in the case, because the lamented deceased was his personal friend. He would had done be did in respect to the memory of the dead, as well as in sympathy for the disconsolate, heart-broken widow.

CHARGE TO THE JURY.

Judge Buffington then delivered the following charge to the jury:

GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY: There can be little or no doubt that the prisoner, Hull, inflicted the mortal wound upon the deceased Parker that resulted in almost instant death. It was inflicted with a dangerous weapon, and in a vital part of the body. Under what circumstances it was perpetrated; what the motive and intention was, and consequently what the degree of his guilt, are mainly questions for the jury to consider, and by the rules of law applicable in such case.

Parker was the conductor of the Accommodation train of the Pennsylvania Railroad that was running the regular trip on the evening of the 26th of January last from Pittsburgh to Johnstown. New Florence was a stopping place and at the time Mr. Parker's train was about starting, Hull and Wm. B. Mitchell came down the front end of the train. Under what circumstances they had been drinking pretty freely that day, but did not seem to have been so much under the influence of liquor as to destroy the memory or faculties. After the train started, Parker, who was sitting back in the car talking up to Mr. Gardner, observed Hull, with Mitchell, directed the brakeman, Jones, to collect their fare. Jones demanded the fare of Hull, and he, not producing it, received a note twisted up as he says, and took it to the conductor. After he left the car Hull went to the conductor. After he left the car Hull went to the conductor. After he left the car Hull went